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NEARBY

HC: Don't permit constructions near monuments

BENGALURU
The High Court of Karnataka has directed the State government to issue circular to all local bodies not to grant permission for new constructions in and around protected monuments in the absence of NoC from the ASI.
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Excise Dept. registers 2.04 lakh cases

BENGALURU
The Excise Department registered 2.04 lakh cases under various categories from 2022-23 to 2024-25 and seized goods worth over ₹102 crore.
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11 die in stampede in RCB celebrations

Tragedy unfolded near the gates of the cricket stadium, where thousands of fans gathered to mark their team's historic first title win in 18 years

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

What began as a day of rapturous celebration over the IPL victory of Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) turned into one of crushing tragedy in Bengaluru on Wednesday evening when 11 people - all aged below 40 - died and 47 were injured when a massive build up of fans at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium led to chaos and stampede.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has announced a magisterial enquiry into the incident that drew sharp criticism over failed crowd management by the Opposition.

The tragedy unfolded near the gates of the stadium, where thousands of fans had gathered to mark RCB's historic first title win in 18 years. Overcrowding and narrow passageways led to a deadly rush. Mr. Siddaramaiah admitted that while the stadium could hold around 32,000 people, well over 2 lakh had gathered there. Doctors attributed all the deaths to asphyxia, a condition arising when the body is deprived of oxygen, causing unconsciousness or death.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru fans who gathered outside the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium celebrate as the IPL 2025 winning team arrives, in Bengaluru on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

While six of the 10 deaths have been confirmed at the State-run Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital and Research Institute in Shivajinagar, four persons, including a female corporate professional, were brought dead to Vydehi Super-speciality Hospital on Mallya Road. One death was reported at Manipal Hospital, Millers' Road.

A sea of loyal RCB fans had begun converging on the Stadium since afternoon, hoping to catch a glimpse of their favourite players with the much-coveted trophy as part of the anticipated open-bus victory parade from Vidhana Soudha to Chinnaswamy Stadium. A victory parade announced by the RCB team, though the police claimed to have not allowed it, had led to lakhs congregating all around the stadium.

A stampede occurred at the gates of the stadium when the fans demanded to be let in even as the stadium was full. Police were outnumbered as the frenzied fans fell over each other to gain entry and jumped over barricades. Even as chaos and tragedy unfolded outside, the event in the stadium scaled down and wrapped up in a hurry.

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What went wrong?

Confused messaging over victory parade and open-air event at Vidhana Soudha brought over two lakh people to the streets, despite the city police never clearing it, eventually leading to a stampede. Suggestions to hold the victory celebrations on Sunday were shot down by the political leadership, sources said. » Page 2

Politics over tragedy

While the government has said it was an 'unfortunate incident' and magisterial inquiry will bring out the truth on who is responsible, the Opposition BJP and JD(S) have squarely blamed the Congress government for the incident.
» Page 4

State reports two more COVID deaths

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

COVID-19 deaths rose to six in Karnataka with two more fatalities reported in the last 24 hours. One of them did not have any comorbidities.

Two fully vaccinated male SARI patients – a 42-year-old from Bengaluru and 65-year-old from Udupi – were admitted with fever, breathlessness and cough in private hospitals on May 26 and May 30 respectively.

While the 42-year-old died of septic shock secondary to ileal obstruction and respiratory failure on May 31, the other person also died of septic shock secondary to bacterial sepsis and acute kidney disease on June 2.

As many as 153 new cases were reported in the last 24 hours taking the total number of active cases to 324 on Wednesday. Of these, seven are being treated in hospitals.

Damage control

Migrant workers on Wednesday clean up debris washed ashore in Thiruvananthapuram from the cargo ship that sunk off the Kerala coast. The ecological impact of the marine accident is being studied as countries observe World Environment Day on Thursday. NIRMAL HARINDRAN

Stalin flays BJP for delay in census

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday said that the Constitution mandates that delimitation must follow the first Census after 2026, however, the BJP has now delayed the Census to 2027, making their plan clear to reduce Tamil Nadu's Parliamentary representation.

Dig at AIADMK

"I had warned about this. It is now unfolding. By siding with the BJP, Palaniswami is not just silent but complicit in this betrayal. It's now clear that he has surrendered to Delhi's domination," Mr. Stalin said in a post on X.

Next Census to conclude by March 2027, says Union Home Ministry

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

India will count its population by March 1, 2027, in a Census to be held after an unprecedented 16-year gap, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs announced on Wednesday. This will be the country's first digital Census, and the first in Independent India to include an enumeration of castes as well.

The Census will be conducted in two phases by February 28, 2027 and the data will have a reference date of 12 a.m. on March 1, 2027. For the Union Territory of Ladakh and the non-synchronous snow-bound areas of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the States of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the reference date for the population count will be 12 a.m. on October 1, 2026.

However, the government has not yet notified the date of commencement of the exercise. The notification of the Centre's intention to conduct the Census, and the dates of the two phases will be "published in the official gazette tentatively on June 16 as per provision of section 3 of the Census Act 1948", as per a press release.

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To be counted

India will be counting its people after a gap of 16 years in the first digital Census which will also include caste enumeration

Crucial numbers: An enumerator at a household in Hyderabad during the 2011 Census. FILE PHOTO

October 1, 2026: Reference date for Union Territory of Ladakh and the non-synchronous snow-bound areas of the U.T. of Jammu and Kashmir and States of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand

March 1, 2027: Reference date set for remaining parts of the country

Around **24 lakh** enumeration blocks (EB) finalised for the 2011 Census are likely to be used for the 2027 Census. Each EB usually comprises 150-180 houses or 650-800 people

No reason for another delay of 23 months: Cong.

NEW DELHI
Hours after the Union government announced the schedule for the Census exercise, the Congress on Wednesday said there was no reason to delay the exercise for another 23 months and slammed the Modi-led government for not meeting "deadlines". » PAGE 13

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The unsung heroes in Royal Challengers' rise to the summit

While the franchise is known to rely on their top-heavy batting order, this season has seen a change in approach; Patidar, Kohli and Flower have been at the centre of it all, but the bowlers have toiled behind the scenes in a story of triumph

R. Kaushik

One of the oft-used cliches is that the IPL is a marathon, not a sprint. Delhi Capitals will ruefully agree - after all, they won their first four matches in a canter yet failed to make even a serious push for the Playoffs.

It's also said regularly that while batters win matches, bowlers win tournaments. One need not look beyond Royal Challengers Bengaluru to understand exactly what that means.

On an emotional, dramatic Tuesday night in front of nearly 100,000 spectators at the gigantic Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, the most passionate sports fans in the world were finally rewarded for loyalty when Rajat Patidar did what Rahul Dravid, Kevin Pietersen, Anil Kumble, Daniel Vettori, Virat Kohli and Faf du Plessis before him had failed to accomplish. In his first season as the captain of the franchise, any franchise, the unassuming Madhya Pradesh batter took his team over the finish line, sparking waves of unchecked celebration throughout the night on the pothole-ridden streets of Bengaluru. After 17 unsuccessful attempts, RCB had finally shed the monkey off their back. There was unalloyed delight, of course, but also a huge sigh of relief. And the unmistakable air of having 'done it for Virat', in a throwback to 2011 when triumph at the 50-over World Cup in Mumbai was dedicated to the peerless Sachin Tendulkar.

Kohli was the obvious cynosure, like he always is when he takes the cricket field, and there is no mistaking his imprint on the march to the Promised Land. He topped 600 runs in an IPL season for the third time on the bounce, finishing with a franchise-high 657 runs. Only Orange Cap winner Sai Sudharsan (759) and the tournament's Most Valuable Player, Suryakumar Yadav (717), boasted a higher tally. No one scored as many half-centuries (8) as the former India and RCB skipper and his strike-rate of 144.71 was a marked improvement on his overall IPL strike-rate of 132.86.

Alongside the effervescent Phil Salt, Kohli formed an exceptional opening pair. The Englishman, who had struck up an excellent alliance with Sunil Narine at the top of the tree when Kolkata Knight Riders won a third title last season, ended up with 403 runs, strike-rate 175.98. Until he pulled up lame with a hamstring injury deep into the league stage, Australian finisher Tim David had sent the RCB faithful into raptures by smashing 16 fours and 14 sixes in 101 deliveries to average 62.33 and strike at 185.14 runs per 100 balls faced, while Romario Shepherd became a household name after a 14-ball half-century (the joint second fastest in the tournament's history) against Chennai Super Kings a month back.

Patidar himself and feisty, inventive wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma were the other batting heroes at various stages while local lads Devdutt Padikkal and his injury replacement Mayank Agarwal more than held their own, which meant that for the first time in their history, IPL weren't reliant merely on their top three or four, as has been the case for much of their existence.

One of the reasons why RCB only made three finals in the first 17 years was because they didn't have sustained firepower in their bowling. There would be the occasional high-performing asset - none more so than Yuzvendra Chahal - but one couldn't shake off the feeling that RCB had been so fixated on their explosive top order which included Kohli (the only man to play for the same franchise for all 18 years) and at various stages Chris Gayle, A.B. de Villiers, Yuvraj Singh and Shane Watson that they didn't quite pay the same attention to their bowling.

That anomaly was emphatically corrected at the big November auction in Jeddah, and the results are there for all to see. RCB weren't just content to secure the services of Josh Hazlewood; they stuck with Yash Dayal, the left-arm quick, while roping in the experienced Bhuvneshwar Kumar. The two Indians played all 15 matches while Aussie Hazlewood missed three games with a shoulder injury, during which time his value to the team became even more evident. Rasik Salam and Lungi Ngidi were used sparingly - both played only two games apiece - which was because Shepherd slotted in nicely as a fourth seamer when required. The West Indian did go at 10.78 runs per over but had the happy knack of picking up big wickets, none bigger than Punjab Kings captain Shreyas Iyer, caught behind in the final for just one after having knocked Mumbai Indians out in Sunday's Qualifier 2 with a special unbeaten 87.

The pundits were unanimous in their view that RCB had had an excellent auction, that they had most bases covered. If it was only 'most' and not 'all' bases, that was because the spin department looked a little undercooked. Their main specialist spinners were Krunal Pandya, the fastish left-armer, and Suyash Sharma, the little leggie who tends to look at the sky when he releases the ball. Competent, sure, was the verdict, but game-changing? Decisively impactful? Hmmm, the jury went.

How wrong we were all to be proved. The older Pandya brother will never fall in the 'classical' category - not that he will ever lay claim to it - but he is street-smart, clever, a half-step ahead of the game, making the most of whatever he has without attempting to overreach. Throughout the campaign, his changes of pace and angles were exemplary; he even bowled the bouncer, often clocked in the mid-110s, with reasonable regularity. He rushed through his overs, he was seldom collared - his economy of 8.23 was the best among all RCB bowlers who played at least two matches - but most importantly, he kept adding to the wickets column.

On Tuesday, Krunal packed off Prabhsimran Singh and dangerous Aussie Josh Inglis, two wicketkeeper-batters eminently capable of changing the course of a game in a matter of a few overs. Like he had done in the previous 14 games, he was relentless, probing, testing - not with loop and drift and dip and turn, but with common sense which in reality isn't all that common. By the time he was done with his spell, he had picked up two for 17, enough to secure him the Player of the Final award for an unprecedented second time in the IPL. Krunal's 17 wickets were the joint second highest for RCB, alongside Bhuvneshwar; unsurprisingly, Hazlewood topped the charts with 22 sticks.

Suyash wasn't in the same wicket-taking league as his 'spin' twin, but he too had a season to remember - eight wickets, economy 8.84. At KKR, he had often slipped in as an Impact Player; here, he often played entire matches, the surest indication of how highly he is rated by the team management even in the nascent stages of his career. In his 14 appearances, Suyash bowled 50 overs, the second most by an RCB bowler (behind Bhuvneshwar's 52), reiterating the confidence Patidar and Jitesh, who stood in as captain when Patidar was nursing a finger injury, had in the 22-year-old.

While the spinners unexpectedly whipped up a storm, Bhuvneshwar and Dayal ensured that Hazlewood wasn't left to do all the heavy lifting on his own. Bhuvneshwar is a seasoned campaigner who won the title with Sunrisers Hyderabad in 2016 and is closing in on 200 IPL wickets. He provided the cutting edge with the new ball, making up for a slight drop in pace by bringing his experience into play and dipping into his vast reservoir of tricks. He was also a mentor to Dayal, useful tips from mid-on or mid-off ensuring that the left-arm quick didn't get carried away.

Dayal has been one of the stars for RCB in the last couple of seasons. He was a shining light in Gujarat Titans' surge to the title on their debut in 2022, but like Chetan Sharma and his last-ball six (conceded to Javed Miandad in Sharjah), he was remembered more for having gone for five sixes in the last over the following year when Rinku Singh muscled KKR to one of the more famous T20 victories. The way the 27-year-old from Allahabad has bounced back is the stuff of legend. Now, Dayal doesn't invoke memories of Rinku anymore. He has established his own identity as a wicket-taker with the new ball, because he is able to swing the white ball when it is new, and as a terrific end-overs specialist who has become adept at defending targets in the last over (poetic justice, you say?).

Last year, Dayal put Chennai Super Kings out at the league stage in a virtual quarterfinal.

The five-time former champions needed 17 off the last over to dump RCB and advance even in the event of a defeat, and when Mahendra Singh Dhoni smashed Dayal over long-on and out of the park, images of Rinku might have briefly surfaced. Dayal pulled himself together brilliantly, dismissed Dhoni off the next ball, and conceded only one more run in the over to win over the RCB fans.

This year, with the stakes a lot lesser, he again expertly defended 15 in the last over and six off the last three deliveries against the same opponents at the same venue (the Chinnaswamy), one of many instances when he was the last-over boss.

His 13 wickets were crucial to RCB's fortunes. Alongside Hazlewood and Bhuvneshwar, he ensured that RCB's three principal pacers accounted for a staggering 52 wickets in the competition. The batters will understandably hog the limelight because that is the nature of the cricket beast, especially in the 20-over format, but within the dugout, Patidar, head coach Andy Flower and Kohli, the team's heartbeat, will have profusely and gratefully acknowledged the class, tenacity, persistence and bloody-mindedness of a largely settled bowling unit. And this truly was the definition of a *unit* propelled by its Indian core, not just Hazlewood and the rest. How heartening.

THE GIST

- RCB weren't just content to secure the services of Josh Hazlewood; they stuck with Yash Dayal, the left-arm quick, while roping in the experienced Bhuvneshwar Kumar
- Krunal's 17 wickets were the joint second highest for RCB, alongside Bhuvneshwar; unsurprisingly, Hazlewood topped the charts with 22 sticks. Suyash too had a season to remember — eight wickets, economy 8.84
- Patidar, head coach Andy Flower and Kohli, the team's heartbeat, will have profusely and gratefully acknowledged the class, tenacity, persistence and bloody-mindedness of a largely settled bowling unit

How what was to be a celebration ended in tragedy

Desperate to get a glimpse of the famed trophy and RCB players, the crowds resorted to climbing trees, compound walls, and even roofs of buildings. It was at the stadium that things came to a head

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Crowd and chaos: (Clockwise from top) Fans, including children, during the RCB victory celebration at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Wednesday; many were seen sitting on trees near the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium; the scene outside the stadium, and the police trying to control people from forcibly entering the premises. SUDHAKARA JAIN AND K. MURALI KUMAR

After a night of celebrating the victory of Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the 18th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL), thousands of fans started gathering near the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium and Vidhana Soudha, between which a 'victory parade' was planned, by Wednesday afternoon. Clad in the jerseys of their favourite team, there were people from all age groups, including parents with children and the elderly. The banners, music, and dancing in the crowd reflected the fervour of the fans ... all until things started to take a very tragic turn.

Desperate to get a glimpse of the famed trophy and the players of RCB, the crowds resorted to climbing trees, compound walls and even roofs of buildings. It was at the stadium that things came to a head.

"My wife and I arrived near the stadium at about 2 p.m., and we were waiting near Gate 20. Sometime between 3 p.m. and 3.30 p.m., as they opened the gates for people to get in, the crowds started pushing one another to get in. In this frenzy, a child fell down a drain in front of the gate. While the security guards who could see it were screaming at the crowds to stop stamping the child, those who wanted to enter did not heed those warnings. The madness was such that people did not even bother about getting pierced by the fence when they were climbing over it to get in. Thankfully, the guards and the police somehow rescued the child," said a traumatised Chandrashekhar Raju, a resident of Gandhi Bazaar in south Bengaluru, who had come to partake in the celebrations.

"After a point, my wife and I felt so suffocated that we decided to get home. There were some other women who were pleading with us to take them back with us. I lost my mobile phone, and I could see many people's earpods and watches crushed on the ground. I saw so many people getting injured ... I have never seen anything like it. It felt like a near-death experience," he said.

Fans paid no heed

The footfall around the stadium had reached manic proportions by around 4.15 p.m. By then, the stadium had also filled to the brim, and the police made desperate pleas for the supporters who had assembled outside to disperse, but to no avail. Unable to gain entry, the crowd started banging on the gates and even managed to climb nearby trees and even on the stadium wall to jump in. While more than a handful jumped over, scores were caned by the police. But crowds continued to push forward.

Many supporters were pushed against the stadium wall and almost all held on to their dear lives, even those with some breathing space and a little elbow room did not miss an opportunity to raise slogans praising RCB, said an eyewitness.

Many faint

The intense heat and congestion adversely affected people, as many fainted. Many suffered ankle sprains and multiple other injuries, said eyewitnesses. This also included children who were carried away by the police. Most of the ambulances could not navigate through the roads packed with fans.

Eventually, at about 4.30 p.m., there were reports that one person died due to suffocation in the stampede. Soon enough, the numbers started growing, and ambulances started blaring in as those with injuries were escorted to three nearby hospitals whose casualty sections were soon full. According to hospitals, a total of nine people were dead by the time they reached the hospital and two others died as treatment failed.

The police continued to urge people to get home as nothing is more important than their lives, but getting back home was also impossible due to choked roads and crowded metro. The trains did not even stop at the B.R. Ambedkar Vidhana Soudha and Cubbon Park stations for hours. While cab prices had doubled, there was also no way for cabs to reach the pick-up locations.

"We walked through Cubbon Park and reached corporation. From there, we booked an autorickshaw, and it was 8 p.m. by the time we reached home," Mr. Raju said.

According to the police estimate, there were more than two lakh people in the area around the stadium on Wednesday evening. With so many people in one place, mobile towers glitched, and soon there was no strong signal on anybody's phone, which exacerbated the situation.

"When there are so many people at one place, the network gets jammed by itself and thus, nobody can make or receive calls or even use the internet," said a senior police official.

Victory lap

Even as the tragedy unfolded outside, the situation inside the stadium was in stark contrast, as fans erupted in joy after catching a glimpse of their favourite players. Virat Kohli, amid thunderous applause, started the programme with a short speech thanking the RCB fan base before Rajat Patidar, with the trophy alongside, spoke.

It was followed by a lap of honour around the stadium along the boundary ropes. However, the programme was cut short in view of the tragedy that had unfolded outside.

(With inputs from Shruti Tewari and Vaishnav G. Edappattu)

Confused messaging over victory parade and open-air event brought over two lakh people to the streets

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Big turnout: A view of the large number of people gathered during the Royal Challengers Bengaluru's felicitation ceremony at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The fan frenzy that broke out on the city's streets after Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) won the IPL finals in Ahmedabad on Tuesday night seems to have flowed into Wednesday. An open-air felicitation to the team on the steps of the Vidhana Soudha and confused messaging over a victory parade by the team in Bengaluru on Wednesday, despite the city police never clearing it, brought over two lakh people onto the streets, eventually leading to a stampede that left 11 dead, sources said.

The city police are learnt to have objected to a victory parade, citing security and crowd management concerns and asked the revelry to be held at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium with limited entry. "There was no time to prepare for such a large gathering in the central business district (CBD), as we had only a few hours," a senior official said.

Suggestions to hold the victory celebrations on Sunday were shot down by the political leadership, sources said.

'Little time to prepare'

"There was a frenzy on the city's streets on Tuesday night, and our personnel were already tired doing bandobast all night. There was very little time to prepare. Against the police advice, the political leadership was insistent on holding an open-air event at the Vidhana Soudha and a victory parade as well," a senior official said.

Despite the police not clearing a victory parade and saying there will be no parade by Wednesday noon, the RCB management had taken to social media as early as 7 a.m. on Wednesday, announcing a victory parade, and reiterating the same at 8 a.m. and 3.15 p.m. This galvanised RCB fans to descend on the streets of the CBD.

The back and forth that happened through Wednesday, over the victory parade, indicates that the police advice was not strictly adhered to by the political leadership as well. The traffic police, which said there would be no victory parade by noon, issued traffic diversions for a victory parade "in case it happens" by 3 p.m., indicating pressure to allow the parade. It was cancelled only after a stampede at the stadium led to deaths. Not only this, the State government also felicitated the team on the steps of the Vidhana Soudha, which was attended by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot, among others.

"The stadium has a seating capacity of only 32,000. But lakhs of fans were on the streets to catch a glimpse of the team either at the Vidhana Soudha or during the announced parade. The RCB management announced that entry into the stadium would be based on free passes, which people had to download from their website. But no such thing could be enforced. By around 3.30 p.m., the gates were first opened, and the stadium was full within no time. But thousands remained outside the gates demanding to be let in. It was in this chaos that the stampedes happened," a senior official recounted, adding that had there been no confusion over the victory parade, maybe the numbers on the street would have been far lesser.

Another senior police official said the lack of time to prepare had also led to some gaps in planning. "Installing screens outside the stadium, resorting to caning of revellers, pushing them away from the stadium gates could have probably controlled the situation," he said. He said that holding two events almost simultaneously in such proximity was also probably not advisable in hindsight.

> The mishap in Bengaluru is absolutely heartrending. In this tragic hour, my thoughts are with all those who have lost their loved ones. I pray that those who are injured have a speedy recovery.
>
> **Narendra Modi,**
> Prime Minister

> This tragedy is a painful reminder: no celebration is worth a human life. Every safety protocol for public events must be reviewed and strictly enforced — lives must always come first.
>
> **Rahul Gandhi,**
> Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha

> Who rushed to the airport on Wednesday morning to receive the team? Who turned it into an event? It was just the Deputy CM and his entourage. Was this the D.K. Shivakumar RCB team?
>
> **H.D. Kumaraswamy,**
> Union Minister and JD(S) leader

> Several people have lost their lives due to the tragic stampede during RCB victory celebrations, and their families are mourning. But the insensitive BJP is busy doing politics over dead bodies.
>
> **D.K. Shivakumar,**
> Deputy Chief Minister

Three teens among the victims

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Helping hands: An injured person being taken for treatment following chaos near the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Wednesday. PTI

When an elated 13-year-old Divyanshi, a class 9 student, called her grandfather Lakshmi Narayan telling him how excited she was to go and catch a glimpse of her favourite cricketers at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, little did he know that hours later he would be running around hospitals to only find her dead.

"She was very excited. She had come with her parents and aunt. I don't know what happened at the stadium gates. They now say she is dead. It is hard to believe she is no more," Mr. Narayan lamented.

Frantic search

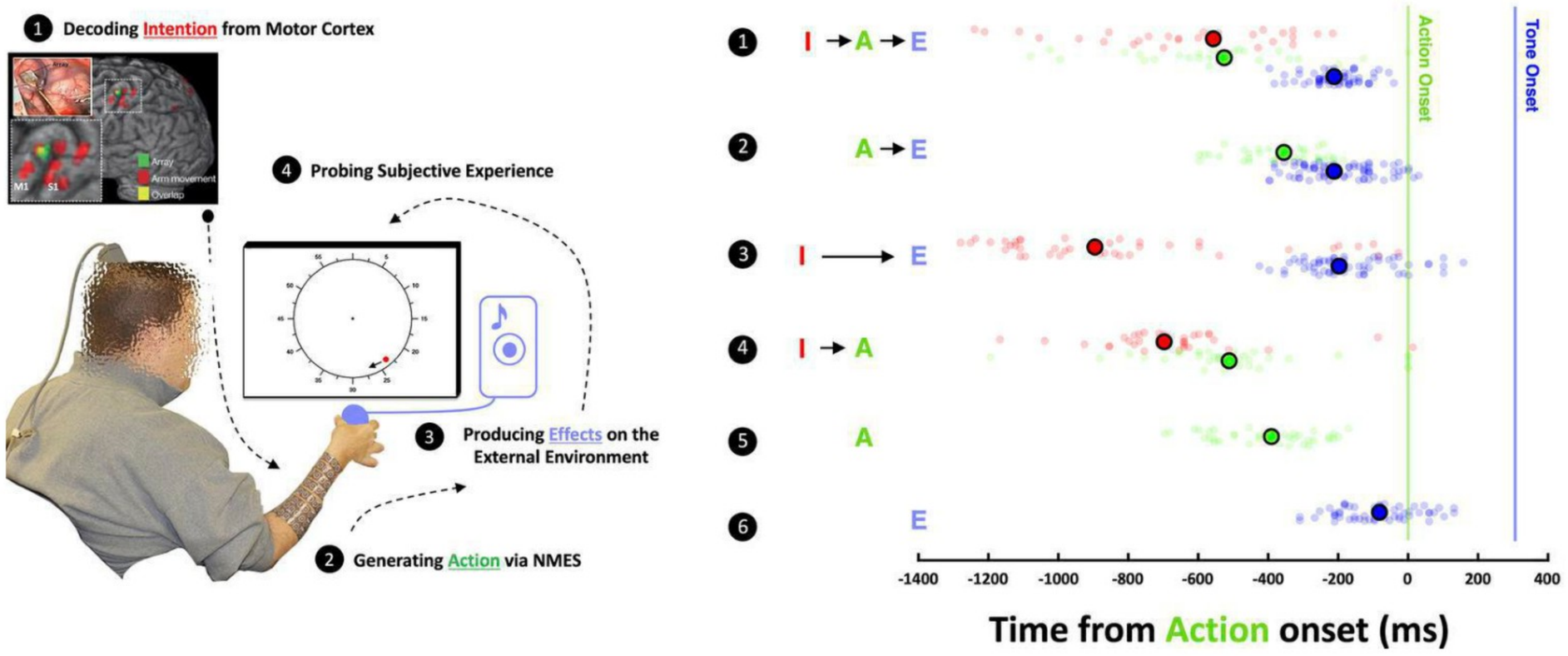
Doresha, a resident of Mandya district, rushed to Bengaluru searching for his nephew Poornachand, 32, a civil engineer and a resident of Raisamudra village, who had come to the city for finalising a marriage proposal and later went to the stadium. On Wednesday evening, Mr. Doresha was running from pillar-to-post trying to locate his nephew.

One of the victims had come to the city to finalise his marriage proposal

"Some people who had seen his name flash on the television said he was among the dead. I went to Bowring Hospital, but his body was not there. But I found his body at Vydehi Hospital," he told presspersons.

The father of another deceased, Bhoomik, 20, was inconsolable at Vydehi Hospital. He said his son had not informed them that he was going to the stadium and if he had they probably would not have allowed him to go.

Most of those killed in the stampede at the stadium were below the age of 40. The deceased have been identified as Sahana, 25, a techie working in the city who had travelled from her home town Kolar with her friends to attend the RCB victory celebrations; Akshata, 27; Manoj, 33; Shravan K.T., 20; Prajwal 22; Devi, 29; Shivaling, 17; Chinmayi, 19, apart from Divyanshi, Bhoomik, and Poornachand.



The neural recording and experimental setup (left). The behavioural responses are displayed on the right. Row 1: full intentional chain where the BMI user indicates time of intention (I, red), action (A, green), and an effect (E, blue) in the external environment. Row 2: estimates of the timing of actions and effects in the absence of intention. Row 3: estimates of the timing of intentions and effects in the absence of actions. Row 4: estimates of the timing of intentions and actions in the absence of an effect. Row 5: estimate of the timing of actions in the absence of intentions and effects. Row 6: estimate of the timing of effects in the absence of intentions and actions. PLOS BIOL 23(4): E3003118.

When you want to move, does your brain know before you've decided?

In the early 1980s, the American neuroscientist Benjamin Libet published his pioneering work exploring what scientists now call the intentional chain. Due to the technical challenges involved, it wasn't possible for scientists to study the intentional chain from beginning to end — until now

Reeteka Sud

It is the end of a long, hard work day and all you feel like doing is flopping on the sofa and watching TV. Your eyes move to something on the screen, and you watch it for a few minutes, then you think to yourself: "I wonder what's on elsewhere..." So you reach for the TV remote and switch the channel.

At this precise moment, let's freeze frame and ask: how did this simple decision unfold?

Which happened first: the conscious recognition of the intention to move your arm or the brain activity required for the movement?

For a long time, people grappled with this as a "chicken or egg" question and arrived at only philosophical answers, not scientific ones. Indeed, for many years the question was actually believed to be outside the purview of science.

The international chain

In the early 1980s, American neuroscientist Benjamin Libet published his pioneering work exploring what scientists now call the intentional chain.

In its entirety, the intentional chain entails an intent (the desire to change the channel in the example above), an action (reaching for the remote), and an effect (e.g., sounds/sights from a different channel). Due to the technical challenges involved, it wasn't possible for scientists to study the intentional chain from beginning to end – until now.

In a study published recently in *PLoS Biology*, Jean-Paul Noel from the University of Minnesota in the US and collaborators from the US, the UK, and Switzerland, reported an experiment in which they selectively targeted each element of the intentional chain, one by one.

They found that conscious recognition of the intent to move coincides with activation in the M1 cortical area, the part of the brain controlling voluntary limb movements. One surprise was a difference in the timing of conscious recognition: the perception of movement and the brain activity corresponding to this intent.

First study of its kind

The study's participant was a tetraplegic person outfitted with a brain implant in his M1 area (a.k.a. the primary motor cortex). Electrical impulses from the implant stimulated the area. This setup, called a brain-machine interface, used with a device called a neuromuscular electrical stimulator (NMES), which activated forearm muscles to cause hand movements, made it possible for the researchers to activate or inactivate individual components of the intentional chain in the study.

A particular hand movement was of interest in this setup. The participant held a ball in his hand. When he squeezed it, a sound was emitted exactly 300 ms later. This was the environmental effect, the last piece of the intentional chain. During the experiment, the participant was asked to watch a clock on a computer screen. Depending on the specific trial, he had to report the reading on the clock – at the time he felt the urge to move his hand, the time he moved his hand or the time he heard an audio tone.

This was the first study to look at the M1 area in the context of the subjective intention of voluntary actions. The researchers found that the timeline of activity in this area was somewhat different than that reported for other brain areas in previous research. Specifically, all the other areas had been activated prior to intention and action – whereas M1 showed activity before but also during a voluntary action.

This makes sense given that M1 is the final stop in the brain before the signal moves to the spinal cord and finally to the muscles of the hand.

Rearing up

Normally, when you intend to move your right hand to pick up an object or lift your foot up to kick a ball, the desire for voluntary movement is reflected as electrical activity in specific parts of the brain. Even before Libet conducted his foundational work, German scientist Hans Helmut Kornhuber placed electrodes along the heads of participants in a study who each made a voluntary decision – to press a button any time they felt like it. He conducted this study in the 1960s. Kornhuber found that in the moments leading up to an individual pressing the button, the electrodes recorded a gradual increase in the strength of an electric signal, which he called the readiness potential. Think of it as the brain gearing up to act. This meant that if these same brain parts were stimulated with electric signals, one could manufacture in the individual an urge to move the hand or the foot.

Kornhuber's work, later confirmed by others, proved there was electrical activity in the brain before the individual performed a voluntary action. Subsequent research showed that certain brain circuits are activated before an individual is even aware of their intention to perform a voluntary movement.

In the new study, Noel & co. explored the question: when do we become aware of a decision we are about to make?

Interesting patterns

In the first round with their setup, the researchers studied the full intentional chain. They recorded electrical activity in the participant's M1 area caused by the intent to move his hand using functional MRI. They recorded any subsequent movement of that hand with NMES. Finally, they recorded the sound of the participant squeezing the ball in his hand. Thus, they had an objective way to measure each step of the intentional chain – a significant departure from previous studies in which researchers depended on participants' responses themselves.

A surprise finding was a difference in timing of conscious recognition: the perception of movement and brain activity corresponding to this intent

When the researchers compared the objective measurements to the participant's subjective perceptions, some interesting patterns emerged. For example, when the team asked the participant to report the time at which he developed a conscious awareness of his intention, his answer suggested his perception preceded actual electrical activity recorded by the MRI. Similarly, when asked to report the time at which he perceived his hand began to move, the researcher found his perception preceded the signal recorded by NMES.

In the next round, the researchers used NMES to move the participant's hand, thus bypassing the subjective intent and therefore electrical activity in the brain. This time, the participant perceived that his hand moved at a time well after the measured electric signal. When the researchers blocked the hand movement signal from NMES, while keeping the intent and effect parts of the chain intact, the participant perceived his intention to occur much earlier – more so than the full intentional chain. In either case the difference was only in the order of milliseconds, but for the brain this is an eternity.

The role of M1

The work of Patrick Haggard at University College London may help understand these results better. Haggard & Co. asked participants in a study to report the timing of an action (pressing a keyboard button, say) and the timing of an effect of their action (a colour changing on the computer monitor). The team's results showed that participants perceived a shorter time interval between a voluntary action and its effect – called the intentional binding – than what was objectively recorded. In this context, Noel's team has discovered a new form of intentional binding: between intention and action.

Since the work of Kornhuber and Libet, as more scientists examined the time between an individual perceiving a voluntary decision and that decision turning into action, it has been becoming clearer that the timing of brain activity in relation to a voluntary decision depends on where in the brain one looks.

Through multiple attempts to understand the brain's goings-on in the moments leading up to a voluntary action, scientists have mapped the parts that light up with electrical activity as an individual consciously develops an urge to take some voluntary action as well as areas that light up with the conscious perception of having taken the action. In the new study, Noel *et al.* have added to this knowledge by revealing the role the M1 area plays with the start of a conscious decision to take some action and during the execution.

Where are you looking?

In the last few decades, cognitive neuroscientists have found that a single voluntary decision for an individual involves multiple different slices in their brain. There's the slice of 'what' decision to make, 'when' to make it, 'whether or not' to translate that decision to action. Activities in various parts of the brain correspond to different slices and the timing of brain activity in relation to a voluntary decision depends on which slice is examined. So if we look in the premotor or parietal cortical areas, we find them activated before a voluntary movement has occurred.

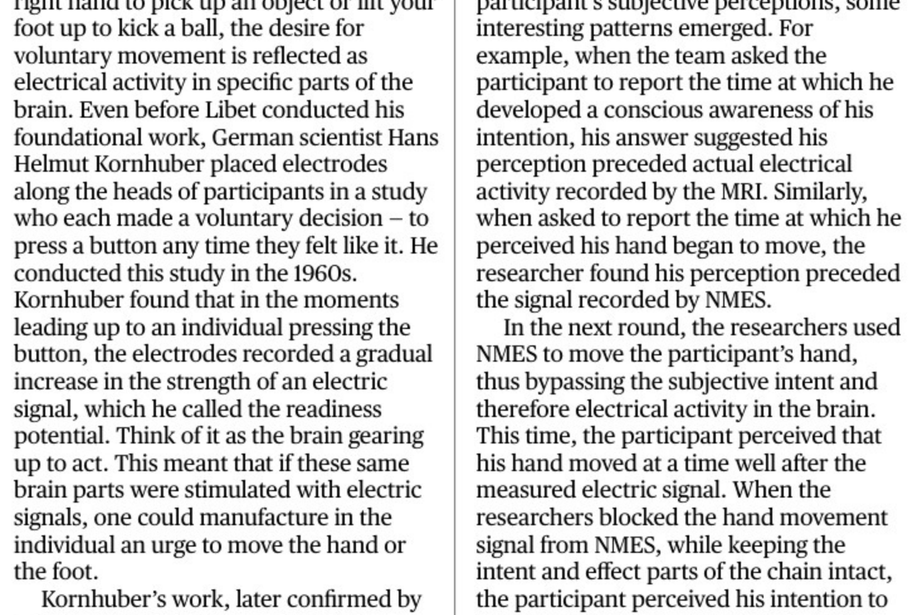
The new study shows that the M1 area integrates signals from premotor-parietal areas, which explains its activity in the moments leading up to the voluntary action.

The specific way the tests were set up made it possible for the researchers to separate M1 activity due to intention from its activity due to action. In a situation where a decision is converted to action, that of reaching for the remote in the example earlier, M1 activity relays that decision down to the spinal cord and to muscles of the arm.

The fact that the study was conducted with a single tetraplegic participant raises obvious questions about whether its findings can be generalised. In another recent study in *Nature Communications*, Noel collaborated with Italian scientist Tommaso Bertoni to examine the same question in 30 healthy participants.

They aimed to study the participants' brain activity using electrodes placed on their scalps (in contrast to electrodes implanted inside the M1 area of the brain). The results have supported the role of the M1 area of the brain in translating voluntary decisions to actions, adding further credence to the findings by Noel and team in their paper.

(Dr. Reeteka Sud is a neuroscientist by training and senior scientist at the Center for Brain and Mind, Department of Psychiatry, NIMHANS, Bengaluru. reeteka@gmail.com)



The desire for voluntary movement is reflected as electrical activity in specific parts of the brain.

The Andromeda galaxy is about 2.5 million lightyears away and moving towards the Milky Way galaxy at around 110 km/s. LVIATOUR (CC BY-SA)

Clash between Andromeda and Milky Way may not happen after all: astronomers

Associated Press

It turns out that the looming collision between our Milky Way and Andromeda galaxies might not happen after all.

Astronomers reported Monday that the probability of the two spiral galaxies colliding is less than previously thought, with a 50-50 chance within the next 10 billion years. That's essentially a coin flip, but still better odds than previous estimates and farther out in time.

"As it stands, proclamations of the impending demise of our galaxy seem greatly exaggerated," the Finnish-led team wrote in a study appearing in *Nature Astronomy*.

While good news for the Milky Way galaxy, the latest forecast may be moot for humanity.

"We likely won't live to see the benefit," lead author Till Sawala of the University of Helsinki said in an email.

Already more than 4.5 billion years old, the sun is on course to run out of energy and die in another 5 billion years or so, but not before becoming so big it will engulf Mercury, Venus, and possibly the earth. Even if it doesn't swallow the earth, the home planet will be left a burnt ball, its oceans long since boiled away.

Sawala's international team relied on the latest observations by NASA's Hubble Space Telescope and the European Space Agency's Gaia star-surveying spacecraft to simulate the possible scenarios facing the Milky Way and next-door neighbour Andromeda. Both already collided with other galaxies in their ancient past and, according to many, seemed destined for a head-on crash.

Past theories put a collision between

The probability of the two spiral galaxies colliding is less than previously thought, with a 50-50 chance within the next 10 billion years

the two – resulting in a new elliptical galaxy dubbed Milkomeda – as probable if not inevitable. Some predictions had that happening within 5 billion years, if not sooner.

For this new study, the scientists relied on updated galaxy measurements to factor in the gravitational pull on the Milky Way's movement through the universe. They found that the effects of the neighbouring Triangulum galaxy increased the likelihood of a merger between the Milky Way and Andromeda, while the Large Magellanic Cloud decreased those chances.

Despite lingering uncertainty over the position, motion, and mass of all these galaxies, the scientists ended up with 50-50 odds of a collision within the next 10 billion years.

A full-on collision would transform our home galaxy from a disk of stars seen as a milky band of diffuse light across the sky into a milky blob, said Raja GuhaThakurta of the University of California, Santa Cruz, who was not involved in the study. A harmless flyby of the two galaxies could leave this stellar disk largely undisturbed.

More work is needed before the Milky Way's fate can be predicted with accuracy, according to the researchers. Further insight should help scientists better understand what's happening among galaxies even deeper in the cosmos.

While our galaxy's fate remains highly uncertain, the sun's future is "pretty much sealed," according to Sawala. "Of course, there is also a very significant chance that humanity will bring an end to itself still much before that, without any need for astrophysical help."

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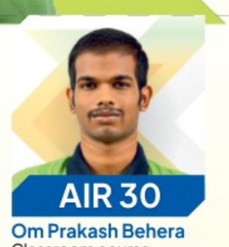
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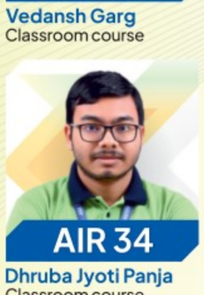
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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of disaster displacements in India in the last decade

3.2 In crore. The report by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre said disasters triggered 264.8 million internal displacements or forced movements across 210 countries and territories during this period. East and South Asia were the most affected regions. PTI

Number of tourists stranded in Sikkim's Lachen village

113 Army personnel have established a walkway to Sikkim's Lachen village, which remained completely cut off due to multiple landslides triggered by rain in Mangan, and reached out to 113 stranded tourists there. Search operations are underway to trace six missing people. PTI

Smugglers held in Punjab's anti-drug drive since March 1

15,495 Sharing the outcome of the 'Yudh Nashian Virudh' drive, the DGP said the police have registered 9,087 FIRs and arrested 15,495 drug smugglers since March 1. Treatment for 5,786 addicts has been facilitated by the police. PTI

Number of Ukrainians registered as refugees across the EU

4.3 In million. The European Commission proposed that Ukrainian refugees be allowed to stay in the EU till March 2027 — stating clearly for the first time that their protected status will at some point end. Some 4.3 million Ukrainians are registered as refugees across the EU. AFP

Global defence exports of Israel reach all-time peak in 2024

14.7 In $ billion. "Israel again reached an all-time peak in defence exports in 2024, marking the fourth consecutive record-breaking year in the scope of defence agreements," the country's defence ministry said in a statement. AFP

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Is global warming becoming a distraction?

Why are climate models for the distant future unreliable? Does an inordinate focus on global mean warming levels take away importance from climate disasters and mitigation strategies? What are some of the immediate measures that one must focus on to tackle climate-related catastrophes?

EXPLAINER

Raghu Murtugudde

The story so far:

A global mean temperature rise of 2°C is enshrined in the Paris Agreement as a safe level of global warming by 2100 with respect to the pre-industrial baseline. This threshold was reduced further to 1.5°C due to the demand from the Alliance of Small Island and Developing States. The climate community has since been trying to quantify climate change and its consequences relative to these warming levels. Unfortunately, the models scientists use for climate projections aren't perfect, which affects the uncertainties in global mean temperature rise estimates. To make predictions for years far beyond 2050, the models need to know the greenhouse gas emissions at the time. Modellers create these figures by imagining energy sources of the future, population growth, and climate actions and policies by then. However, it is anything but easy to simulate societies of the distant future. Thus, projections of global warming in the distant future depend heavily on uncertainties inherent to these speculative scenarios.

Need to refocus: Residents clean up a mud-and-debris-covered street after flooding hit large parts of the country, in the Paiporta municipality of Valencia, Spain on October 31, 2024. GETTY IMAGES

Is global mean warming important?

After 2023 and 2024 turned out to be record warm years, the spectre of crossing the 1.5°C threshold looms large. However, the 2°C warming threshold emerged from a rather arbitrary assumption rooted in the work of economics Nobel laureate William Nordhaus in the 1970s.

There has been much debate since as to what this figure represents in real terms, because the two warming levels – 1.5°C and 2°C – aren't particularly special in climate science. In fact, there are uncertainties about the magnitude and/or duration of warming overshoot required for it to be catastrophic. The onslaught of climate-related disasters also makes it clear that any additional warming should be avoided. The exact amount of warming, whether 1.5°C, 1.75°C or 2°C, hardly matters for disaster management and adaptations required today.

Did the world really cross 1.5°C?

Global temperature estimates are prepared by blending observations and models. Also, multiple groups produce multiple models, which produce multiple estimates – and they are not alike. Two such models of late have claimed the world exceeded 1.5°C of warming in late 2024 whereas one has estimated the world didn't. Be that as it may, the question remains as to whether 2025 will continue to warm or if the rate of warming will drop. Rapid warming events in the past suggest that the rate of warming after sudden jumps tends to decline after a few years. For example, 2024 started out warm following the record warmth of 2023 before the rate of warming dropped. The rate in 2025 has already fallen below that seen in 2024 for the same months. Considering the uncertainties in warming plus irreducible uncertainties in estimating today's temperatures, it is confusing why global mean warming levels remain relevant.

Climate adaptation and resilience require large investments. We also need reliable local information to avoid maladapting. Thus, climate mitigation must continue, in fact even accelerate while global mean warming is a distraction we can do without. But with the back-pedalling on climate action in some countries, short-and medium-term predictions, from days to a decade or two, are most urgent now, especially at the hyperlocal scale.

What about climate disasters?

Climate disasters like heatwaves, floods, and droughts are becoming more protracted, frequent, and intense. Insurance losses, number of lives, and number of livelihoods lost worldwide are rising year on year. These disasters are a reminder that unless researchers can pinpoint which disaster is likely to occur where and with sufficient actionable lead time – for example, a few days to few weeks for most extreme events – focusing on global mean warming can be wasteful, if not misguided.

Early-warning systems and disaster management are becoming better overall and global plans under the UN, such as Early Warnings for All, promise to ensure poorer countries are not left out. If we are to manage day-to-day crises better even as the risks of climate hazards increase, we also need predictions at the decadal timescale to allow countries to plan ahead for adaptation and resilience. This in turn demands that we focus on tracking disasters, preparedness, management and recovery.

The earth's tropics are a hotspot of climate change's consequences since they are warmer to begin with. So catastrophic floods outside the tropics, such as those in Valencia in 2024, are a stark reminder that good early warnings are worthless unless they are actionable up to the last mile. It has become common in the wake of disasters for some research groups to claim it was caused by global warming. However, we need to focus on more important questions: whether a given forecast was accurate and whether all disaster management agencies on the ground received it in time. If a forecast fails, they need to be recorded and documented as such; if a forecast was accurate but the government failed to prepare for it in time, the points of failure must be quickly identified and corrected.

This acknowledges that climate risk and uncertainties are never zero, that risks are not predestined, and that we have agency in mitigating them.

Raghu Murtugudde is retired professor, IIT Bombay, and emeritus professor, University of Maryland.

THE GIST

- After 2023 and 2024 turned out to be record warm years, the spectre of crossing the 1.5°C threshold looms large. However, the 2°C warming threshold emerged from a rather arbitrary assumption rooted in the work of economics Nobel laureate William Nordhaus in the 1970s.
- Global temperature estimates are prepared by blending observations and models. Also, multiple groups produce multiple models, which produce multiple estimates — and they are not alike.
- Climate disasters like heatwaves, floods, and droughts are becoming more protracted, frequent, and intense.

Has the environmental crisis in India exacerbated?

What are the major factors which contribute to the current environmental crisis?

Tikender Singh Panwar

The story so far:

As we observe June 5 as World Environment Day, one takes stock of how the previous decade has exacerbated/mitigated existing environmental crises.

What are main environmental crises?

The world is grappling with three deeply intertwined planetary crises: carbon emissions, biodiversity loss , and pollution. Over the last 10 years, these crises have deepened, despite growing awareness and international efforts.

Between 2015 and 2024, global CO_2 emissions rose from around 34.1 billion metric tonnes to 37.4 billion metric tonnes, a nearly 10% increase. In the same period, India's emissions surged from 2.33 billion to 3.12 billion metric tonnes, persistent dependence on coal and oil. On the biodiversity front, mass extinctions and ecological disruptions are becoming the norm. India, with its mega-diverse ecosystems, faces growing threats from deforestation, wetland degradation, and monoculture agriculture. Meanwhile, pollution, particularly air pollution, has remained stubbornly high. India consistently ranks among the world's most polluted countries, with Delhi topping global lists.

What are the root causes?

There are myriad causative factors. First is fossil fuel dependency. Most global carbon emissions are driven by coal, oil, and gas consumption in power generation, transportation, and heavy industry. In India, coal still accounts for nearly 70% of electricity generation. Second, we have deforestation and land-use change. In India, forest clearances for roads, mining, and dams have increased, especially in biodiversity-rich regions like the Western Ghats and the northeast. Third, agricultural intensification. High-input monocultures, especially driven by agribusinesses, destroy habitats and pollute water bodies with nitrates, pesticides, and plastics. Waste mismanagement and unchecked urbanisation is also a major factor causing environmental degradation. Unregulated landfills, untreated sewage, and industrial effluents have polluted rivers like the Ganga and Yamuna. India generates 62 million tonnes of waste annually, of which barely 20% is scientifically processed. And finally, overconsumption and industrialisation. The Global North's high consumption and global supply chains externalise pollution and ecological damage to the Global South.

How is India positioned?

As a developing economy, India has a smaller per capita carbon footprint (~1.9 tonnes/year vs. the U.S.'s 14.7 tonnes), yet its aggregate emissions are rising due to rapid industrialisation and urbanisation. The poor bear the brunt of pollution and climate shocks – whether in Delhi's smog-choked slums or drought-stricken villages in Maharashtra. Yet India is also a victim of the environmental damage caused by global forces. Climate change, largely driven by the historical emissions of richer nations, has intensified India's monsoons, floods, and heatwaves, while biodiversity loss has weakened India's food systems and health infrastructure.

What needs to be done?

A meaningful response must include accountability from nations of the Global North. Wealthy nations must drastically cut emissions, provide climate finance, and stop outsourcing dirty industries. Large polluting corporations must also be held accountable through strict laws and carbon taxation. Moreover, the future of development must be based on ecological concerns. For example, corporations that do not adhere to the 'green policy' should not be allowed to trade in the market. Creating such protocols will pave way for systemic changes. Sustainable development should be encouraged with a shift toward low-carbon livelihoods, ecological agriculture, and community-led conservation.

Tikender Singh Panwar is former deputy mayor of Shimla, and member of the Kerala Urban Commission.

THE GIST

- The world is grappling with three deeply intertwined planetary crises: carbon emissions, biodiversity loss , and pollution.
- As a developing economy, India has a smaller per capita carbon footprint (~1.9 tonnes/year vs. the U.S.'s 14.7 tonnes), yet its aggregate emissions are rising due to rapid industrialisation and urbanisation.
- A meaningful response must include accountability from nations of the Global North.

Siddaramaiah says the crowd surge wasn't anticipated

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah meets a victim of the stampede at a hospital in Bengaluru on Wednesday. PTI

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Expressing grief over the death of 11 persons, including young students, in the stampede outside M. Chinnaswamy on Wednesday, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah instituted a magisterial inquiry into the event. He also announced a compensation of ₹10 lakh to the family of the deceased and free treatment to 47 injured persons undergoing treatment in hospitals.

Terming the stampede as an "unexpected big tragedy" that should not have taken place, the Chief Minister told presspersons here:

"The crowd was more than expected. Against a seating capacity of about 32,000 in the stadium, two to three lakh people turned up. We had expected the crowd size to be around the seating capacity or a little more. Neither the government nor the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) expected this big crowd."

He said that people outside the stadium broke through the barriers and tried to enter through small gates.

The Chief Minister said: "The event at the Vidhana Soudha had more than one lakh people and no tragedy took place. Tragedy happened at the stadium. We had not organised the celebrations. It was the cricket association that arranged the programme. We (government) only gave security. Every available police personnel had been deployed in the stadium."

He also refuted reports that the Bengaluru police had advised the government against holding the celebrations even at the Vidhana Soudha.

Flanked by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Home Minister G. Parameshwara, the Chief Minister lost his cool on a couple of occasions when the media probed him and sought to know if it was a lapse on part of the government or the KSCA.

After his attention was drawn towards criticisms coming from BJP leaders, he said: "I do not want to defend the tragedy and play politics... Several stampedes have taken place at different places. I cannot defend this stampede saying it happened in the Kumbh Mela where 50 to 60 people died."

Relief announced

The KSCA and the RCB would jointly provide a compensation of ₹5 lakh to the family members of each of the deceased, the association said in a statement.

BJP seeks judicial probe and resignation of Home Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Squarely blaming the Congress government's alleged lack of preparations in holding the victory celebrations of RCB as the main reason for the stampede that claimed 11 lives in Bengaluru on Wednesday, the Opposition BJP has demanded a judicial probe into the incident besides the resignation of Home Minister G. Parameshwara.

BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra, who visited the hospitals where the injured people are being treated, accompanied by Leaders of the Opposition in both the Houses of the State legislature R. Ashok and Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, demanded that the probe should look into the failure by the government in crowd management too.

Mr. Ashok alleged that the government hurriedly organised such a programme only to take credit for the RCB's victory without proper preparations or planning with the Police Department. "It is highly irresponsible on the part of the government that it did not bother to think whether the police who were already drained out through their night-long monitoring of the law and order situation on Tuesday would be able to handle a mega programme the next day," he alleged. He argued that the government could have scheduled the programme during the weekend, as that would have provided more time for it to prepare.

Accusing the government of keeping the people in a state of confusion till evening on whether there would be a victory parade or not, he urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to clarify if anyone had brought pressure on the police to take any clear decision in this regard.

He demanded that Home Minister G. Parameshwara immediately tender his resignation, owning moral responsibility. He also demanded a compensation of ₹25 lakh each for the families of the deceased.

Meanwhile, Opposition Chief Whip in the Legislative Council N. Ravikumar alleged that the ill-manner in which the government organised the programme in front of the Vidhana Soudha, as though it was the family programme of its leaders, that also saw stone-pelting and lati-charging had not only made the State bend its head in shame, but also upset RCB players themselves.

Overcrowded metro, traffic snarls leave people stranded

Officials say that 8.7 lakh people boarded the metro until 9 p.m. on Wednesday

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

More than two lakh people arriving on the streets of the central business district (CBD) to celebrate the victory of Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) threw traffic and public transport out of gear, causing much inconvenience even to those who were not partaking in the celebrations on Wednesday.

Officials said that 8.7 lakh people boarded metro until 9 p.m. on Wednesday.

While the Bengaluru traffic police (BTP) had imposed traffic restrictions and advised commuters to avoid the CBD areas, the major roads around the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium and Vidhana Soudha were choked. Residency Road, Richmond Road, Nrupatunga Road, Ulsoor Road after Trinity Circle and Raj Bhavan Road were chock-a-block during the evening peak hours.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru fans outside the closed metro station near the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Meanwhile, from the afternoon, those commuting by metro, especially on the Purple Line, struggled as the trains were overcrowded.

As chaos continued to unfold near the stadium and Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (BMRCL) announced that the trains would not stop at B.R. Ambedkar Vidhana Soudha and Cubbon Park stations.

This resulted in huge crowds gathering at the nearby stations, including Sir M. Visvesvaraya Central College, M.G. Road, and Trinity, and the ripple effect stretched till Swami Vivekananda Road station. Many people were also seen walking from near the stadium for kilometres to reach other metro station.

To cope with the surge, metro commuters were allowed to pass without scanning QR code tickets, cards, or tokens, leading to congestion near barricades. Some commuters described being trapped in metro trains that did not stop at stations, with shutters down, creating a frightening experience.

The extensive demand for transport also led to surge pricing on most ride-hailing apps, leaving commuters with no choice but to pay double the usual. "I work on Residency Road and had to reach Peenya during the peak hour of the evening. I found out that the metro was overcrowded and booked a cab, ended up paying ₹600 for a ride which should not have cost more than ₹300," said Manasa S., a private complany employee.

(With inputs from Sagnik Maitra and Eman Syed)

Two die during RCB victory celebrations

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA/BELAGAVI

Two persons have died during celebrations for the Royal Challengers Bengaluru's maiden IPL trophy win.

In Shivamogga, a 21-year-old man died in an accident during the celebrations on Tuesday night. Abhi, a resident of Venkatesh Nagar, died after the bike he was riding was hit by another bike near Ganapati temple on 100 Feet Road. He is survived by his mother and a brother.

He was celebrating RCB's win along with his friends. The youths took him to the nearest hospital after the accident. However, by then he had succumbed to injuries. The Jayanagar Police have registered a case.

In Belagavi, a 28-year-old man died of a heart attack while celebrating the victory in Avaradi village.

Manjunath Eerappa Kumbar was dancing at the Sangolli Rayanna Circle at midnight after the match ended when he collapsed. His friends took him to a nearby hospital at Mahalingpur in Bagalkot district, but he was declared brought dead. A case has been registered.

He was married and is survived by a six-month-old daughter, a pregnant wife, mother and father, said the police.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, (QA&QC) Division, R R Nagara Zone, Room No-101, Annex-3 Building, BBMP N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002
No: EE(QA&QC)/RRN/TEND/02/2025-26 Date:04.06.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)

Call-2 (Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Quality Assurance/Quality Control division invites Request for Proposal from interested persons/firms those who have done similar type of work for Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality control (PMC) for the below works through KPPportal by the Executive Engineer QA/QC, R R Nagara BBMP.

Sl No.	Name of the work
1.	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality control for Construction of flood protection structures to SWD including RCC Retaining walls, Water retention structures, Nature based solution structures/Bridges and culverts under Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Programme (KWSRP) with externally funded projects (World Bank) in Rajarajeshwari nagara zone Package-2" (Call-2) **Project Cost: ₹.18,532.29 Lakhs, EMD Amount: ₹.2,78,000/-**

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP portal GOK from **05.06.2025.** (2) Pre-Bid Meeting on **10.06.2025** at **11:30** am. (3) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders is **16.06.2025** upto **4:00** pm. (4) Opening of Technical Bid is **17.06.2025** at **4:30** pm.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
QA&QC- R R Nagar Zone

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

FORM NO.14
[See Regulation 33(2)] by Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication.

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961. as amended
RC/581/2024

30-01-2025

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Versus
YALLACHARI GARI PRASANNA

In the Matter of:
(CH-1)
STATE BANK OF INDIA, RASMEC HOSUR BRANCH,
AT SRI VAARI BUILDING, PLOT NO.2, SIPCOT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PHASE-I, ZUZUVADI, HOSUR TAMILNADU-635126.
...APPLICANT BANK/CERTIFICATE HOLDER
-Versus-

To,
(CD-1)
SRI. YALLACHARI GARI PRASANNA, S/O. SRI. YALLCHARI GARI NARAYANA,
RESIDING AT: NO.63/4, 12TH CROSS, CHAKKASANDRA, BENGALURU NORTH, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA - 560057.
ALSO AT:
NO.4-12, MALLASAMUDRAM, BOMMAGUNDANAHALLI POST, ROLLA MANDALA, NEAR GOVT SCHOOL, ANANTAPUR, ANDHRA PRADESH-515271.
...DEFENDANT/CERTIFICATE DEBTOR

CH Name	Int Type/ Mode	Int Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	RC Amount	Remark
State Bank of India	Compound Interest (Monthly)	7.40% p.a.	13.04.2022	04.12.2023	4438269	

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BENGALURU (DRT 1)** in **OA/750/2022** an amount of **Rs.44,38,269.00 (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousand Two Hundred and Sixty Nine Only)** along with cost, expense and future interest @7.40%p.a. Compound Interest Monthly w.e.f. **13/04/2022** till realization and costs of **Rs.74,162/- (Rupees Seventy Four Thousands One Hundred and Sixty Two Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

CD Name	Loan Type	Int Type/ Mode	Int Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Liability Type	RC Amount
CD-1 Sri. Yallachari Gari Prasanna	Home Loan	Compound Interest (Monthly)	7.40% p.a.	13.04.2022	04.12.2023	Fully	4438269

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on **30/04/2025** at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **30/01/2025**
(SANJIV KUMAR)
RECOVERY OFFICER - I

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

FORM NO.14
[See Regulation 33(2)] by Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication.

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961. as amended
RC/438/2024

10-01-2025

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Versus
SMT. SALOMY THOMAS

In the Matter of:
(CH-1)
STATE BANK OF INDIA, RASMEC HOSUR BRANCH,
SRI VAARI BUILDING, PLOT NO.2, SIPCOT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PHASE-I, ZUZUVADI, HOSUR TAMILNADU-635126.
... APPLICANT(S)
-Versus-

To,
(CD-1)
SMT.SALOMY THOMAS D RAJU, D/O.D RAJU,
RESIDING AT: NO.151,5TH MAIN, HACENDA CLUB ROAD, NEAR MORE SUPER MARKET, MALLESHPALYA, BENGALURU KARNATAKA-560075.
... DEFENDANT(S)

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BENGALURU (DRT 1)** in **OA/582/2022** an amount of **Rs.44,57,127.00 (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs Fifty Seven Thousands One Hundred Twenty Seven Only)** along with cost, expense and future interest @7.35%p.a. Compound Interest Monthly w.e.f. **22/03/2022** till realization and costs of **Rs.73,733.00 (Rupees Seventy Three Thousands Seven Hundred Thirty Three Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on **26/03/2025** at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **10/01/2025**
(P.H.HEMANTH KUMAR, IRS)
RECOVERY OFFICER - II

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

FORM NO.14
[See Regulation 33(2)] by Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication.

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961. as amended
RC/24/2025

13-03-2025

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Versus
SATISHBABU.B.R.

In the Matter of:
(CH-1)
STATE BANK OF INDIA, RASMEC HOSUR BRANCH,
SRI VAARI BUILDING, PLOT NO.2, SIPCOT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PHASE-I, ZUZUVADI, HOSUR TAMILNADU-635126.
... APPLICANT(S)
-Versus-

To,
(CD-1)
SATISH BABU B.R., S/O. RAJA GOPAL SHETTY,
R/AT SRI GEDDAKAHALLI MAIN ROAD, NEAR ALUMINUM FACTORY UPPARAHALLI, SOMESHWARAPURAM TUMKUR, KARNATAKA-572102.
... DEFENDANT(S)

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BENGALURU (DRT 1)** in **OA/580/2022** an amount of **Rs.45,49,695.00 (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs Forty Nine Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Five Only)** along with cost, expense and future interest @7.40%p.a. Compound Interest Monthly w.e.f. **21/03/2022** till realization and costs of **Rs.81,628.00 (Rupees Eighty One Thousands Six Hundred and Twenty Eight Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on **09/05/2025** at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **13/03/2025**
(P.H.HEMANTH KUMAR, IRS)
RECOVERY OFFICER - II

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

FORM NO.14
[See Regulation 33(2)] by Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication.

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961. as amended
RC/437/2024

09-01-2025

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Versus
SRI. SHIVA SHANKAR

In the Matter of:
(CH-1)
STATE BANK OF INDIA, RASMEC HOSUR BRANCH,
SRI VAARI BUILDING, PLOT NO.2, SIPCOT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PHASE-I, ZUZUVADI, HOSUR TAMILNADU-635126.
... APPLICANT(S)
-Versus-

To,
(CD-1)
SRI.SHIVA SHANKAR MUNIRAJU, S/O. SRI. MUNIRAJU,
RESIDING AT: NO.E-3, AKASH VILLA APARTMENT NO.2, AND 3RD FLOOR, 12TH 'A' CROSS J.P.NAGAR, 1ST PHASE, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA-560079.
... DEFENDANT(S)

Sl. No.	CH Name	Int Type/ Mode	Int Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Amount	Interest as on Order Date	RC Amount	Remark
1	State Bank of India	Compound Interest (Monthly)	7.25	22.03.2022	09.10.2023	4576682	0	4576682	

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BENGALURU (DRT 1)** in **OA/603/2022** an amount of **Rs.45,76,682/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Two Only)** along with cost, expense and future interest @7.25%p.a. Compound Interest Monthly w.e.f. **22/03/2022** till realization and costs of **Rs.75181 (Rupees Seventy Five Thousands One Hundred and Eighty One Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

Sl. No.	CD Name	Loan Type	Int Type/ Mode	Int Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Amount	Liability Type	Interest as on Order Date	RC Amount	Remark
1	Sri Shiva Shankar	Home Loan	Compound Interest (Monthly)	7.25	22.03.2022	09.10.2023	4576682	Fully	Interest as on Order Date	4576682	

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on **21/03/2025** at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **09/01/2025**
(SANJIV KUMAR)
RECOVERY OFFICER - I

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

FORM NO.14
[See Regulation 33(2)] by Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication.

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961. as amended
RC/551/2024

30-01-2025

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Versus
MANJUNATHA.S

In the Matter of:
(CH-1)
STATE BANK OF INDIA, RASMEC HOSUR BRANCH,
AT SRI VAARI BUILDING, PLOT NO.2, SIPCOT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PHASE-I, ZUZUVADI, HOSUR TAMILNADU-635126.
...APPLICANT BANK/CERTIFICATE HOLDER
-Versus-

To,
(CD-1)
SRI.MANJUNATHA.S, S/O. SRI. DASIGOWDA SHIVANNA,
RESIDING AT: NO.24, D.NO.1264, NEAR OLD POST OFFICE ROAD, RAMMURTHY NAGAR, ASHWINI NURSING HOME, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA-560016.
...DEFENDANT/CERTIFICATE DEBTORS

CH Name	Int Type/ Mode	Int Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	RC Amount	Remark
State Bank of India	Compound Interest (Monthly)	7.40% p.a.	07.03.2022	15.11.2023	4643911	

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BENGALURU (DRT 1)** in **OA/439/2022** an amount of **Rs.46,43,911/- (Rupees Forty Six Lakhs Forty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Eleven Only)** along with cost, expense and future interest @7.40%p.a. Compound Interest Monthly w.e.f. **07/03/2022** till realization and costs of **Rs.82,476/- (Rupees Eighty Two Thousands Four Hundred and Seventy Six Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

CD Name	Loan Type	Int Type/ Mode	Int Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Liability Type	RC Amount
CD-1 Sri. Manjunatha.S	Home Loan	Compound Interest (Monthly)	7.40% p.a.	07.03.2022	15.11.2023	Fully	4643911

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on **27/03/2025** at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **30/01/2025**
(SANJIV KUMAR)
RECOVERY OFFICER - I

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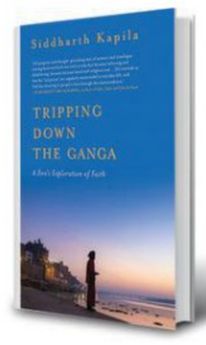
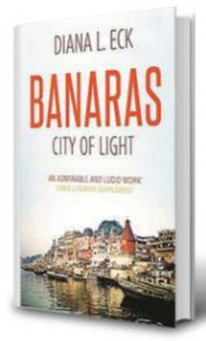
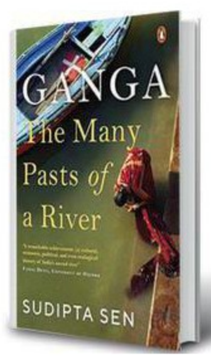
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Shining bright: Devotees light earthen lamps on the banks of the river Ganges in Varanasi on November 15, 2024. AFP







Finding purpose, meaning, and a connection in life through travel

Mystical mountains and sacred rivers, the ghats of Banaras and religious routes have always attracted travellers keen to get a deeper insight on the self and spirituality. When such stories are documented, it helps readers to understand the interwovenness of India's rich history

Soma Basu

There is little denying that the world is divided between different ways of understanding and interacting with reality. Whether we think deeply about it or not, we end up siding either with tradition or modernity, science or religion, superstition or reason, rationality or empiricism, logic or faith. In the process, we create a dynamic landscape where different beliefs, practices and values compete for recognition and influence.

Perhaps one of the best ways to become more aware and be able to expand the definitions of our thoughts and to fathom self-realisation, is to travel.

A majority of the people travel for fun, adventure, and relaxation. Writers, researchers, and seekers travel for solitude, exploration, and to rediscover themselves.

When writers go on yatras to understand what lies at the core of beliefs and devotion, there emerges an interesting genre of books that explores themes of finding purpose, meaning, and connection in life.

For Siddharth Kapila, the decision to quit a career in law and undertake a journey to sites important to the Hindu faith was driven by passion and curiosity in equal measure. Between 2015 and 2022, he revisited seven pilgrimage sites along the Ganges where he had been to as a reluctant adolescent with his devout mother in the 1990s.

Memoir of introspection

Meant to be a plain travel account, his notes seamlessly transition into an introspection and an interesting memoir. *Tripping Down The Ganga: A Son's Exploration of Faith* (published by Speaking Tiger, 2025) is about India today, what Hinduism means to believers in general, and sceptics like him.

Kapila's understanding of the Ganga tethered to the propaganda of religion today is not at loggerheads with the millions of superstitious, ritualistic and religious people including his mother, who worship the river. Faith is free and he does not criticise it. Rather, with a dash of humour he wonders about the contradictions that are visible in his journey from Kedarnath to Badrinath, Gangotri, Rishikesh, Allahabad, Banaras and Ganga Sagar and offers readers a relatable visual imagery through his words.

He talks about how rituals are used to manipulate people based on their class, status and caste. That a holy dip to purify the soul does not wash away discrimination, bigotry, patriarchy or orthodoxy. But more important how people who worship the river also make a mess of it. The author does not flaunt any specific idea but through anecdotes and what he observes, he uncovers peoples' attitudes on faith. He also throws light on the diversity of Hinduism and the resilience of people's devotion. The sacred, complex and magnetic Ganga mirrors society, he says, carrying the weight of an entire civilisation.

An old, living city

In 1982, Diana L. Eck, American scholar of religious studies, captured the soul of one of the oldest living cities in her book *Banaras: City of Light*. Documenting a huge amount of history, she introduced readers to elaborate and thriving rituals and the significance they hold for pilgrims and seekers who throng the city. The detailed book is often cited as a critical introduction of Banaras and Hindu religious traditions for a generation of scholars on India.

There are few places as sacred as Banaras that symbolises the whole of Hindu culture and imagines god in a thousand ways. Introducing the concept of sacred geography, she celebrates the city as a living, breathing and transforming symbol in the Hindu religious context.

Nandini Majundar also writes about the holy city in her book *Banaras: Walks Through India's Sacred City* (Roli Books/2014). It is a captivating perspective of her walks around the city wherein she captures the essence and character of Banaras through its ghats and the riot of colours and why it has become a major tourist attraction.

Another book, *A Pilgrimage to Kashi: Banaras, Varanasi, Kashi, History, Mythology and Culture of the Most Fascinating City in India*, by G. Gol published by Indica in 1999, is a fascinating depiction of Banaras in all its hues and imagery.

A river's history

In *Ganga: The Many Pasts of a River* (Penguin/Viking), historian Sudipta Sen chronicles a fascinating story of the world's third largest river from its first settlers, its myths of origin in Hinduism and its significance in Buddhism.

He traces the many Empires that shaped the river's history and the merchants who navigated the waters in his lavishly illustrated volume of work. Stitching the geography, ecology and religious history of the sacred and beloved lifeline of Indians, he remarkably portrays how and why the Ganga enjoys a special place in the hearts of the people.

Even as our political leaders make it a habit to visit religious sites as part of their campaigns in today's surcharged political atmosphere, for most people, religious travelogues are in pursuit of a meaningful life.

It is a philosophical debate as old as time and books lend a sense of wisdom and calm to the restless mind and the chaos outside.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

A quiz on this year's eventful IPL edition

Soorya Prakash. N

QUESTION 1
Who won Player of the Match on his IPL debut in the 2025 edition?

QUESTION 2
Who became the first captain in IPL history to pick up five wickets in an IPL match in 2025?

QUESTION 3
Who was the only player to perform a hat trick in IPL 2025?

QUESTION 4
Which player took the most number of catches in a match in IPL 2025?

QUESTION 5
Who is the only player to win Man of the Match despite ending up on the losing side?

QUESTION 6
The impact sub rule is in place since 2023. Who are the only two players to have become Man of the Match coming in as an impact sub in IPL 2025?

QUESTION 7
Who hit six consecutive sixes, though not in the same over, in this year's IPL edition?

QUESTION 8
Who created a world record by scoring 25+ runs in each match that he played in IPL 2025 — 15 matches in a row?

Visual question:
This player became the first person in IPL history to have taken part as a player and as an umpire. FILE PHOTO

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The reason why Pride Month is observed in June. **Ans: June became recognised as Pride Month in the U.S. to commemorate the Stonewall Uprising**
2. This day is observed on June 3 every year. **Ans: World Bicycle Day**
3. This is celebrated annually on June 5. **Ans: World Environment Day**
4. This language day is observed annually on June 6. **Ans: Russian Language Day**
5. This day was first observed in 2002 by the International Labour Organisation. **Ans: World Day against Child Labour**
Visual: Identify the event annually observed on June 30. **Ans: International Asteroid Day; it is observed on June 30 on the anniversary of the Tunguska event in 1908**
Early Birds: K.N. Viswanathan| Parimal Das| Mohan Lal Patel| Tamanjit Bisla| Tito Shiladitya

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"Were you in time for the meeting yesterday?"

"No, I was late. So my boss had to clue me in."

"Clue you in? I've never heard that expression before."

"It's an informal expression. When you clue someone in on something, 'you inform someone of something'."

"Most politicians need their assistants to clue them in on what's happening around the world."

"That's true. Otherwise it's difficult to keep track of what's happening around the world."

"Can I say, 'I would like to clue you in on the party we are giving Rubina?"

"You can. And I could reply by saying, 'Please clue me in'."

"I see. How long did your meeting last yesterday?"

"Oh, it went on till about ten in the night."

"Good grief! You must have been exhaustive."

"What do you mean by that?"

"I mean you must have been really tired. You know, exhaustive."

"In that case, the word you are looking for is 'exhausted', 'not exhaustive'. The word 'exhausted' means that someone is 'so tired, either physically or mentally, that they have no energy left'. For example, Sampras was exhausted after his quarter final match at the U.S. Open."

"I was exhausted after running a mile."

"There was a good movie on TV. But I was too exhausted to watch it."

"O.K., I think I know what 'exhausted' means, What does 'exhaustive' mean?"

"It means 'thorough', 'complete', 'comprehensive'. The scientist studied the problem in exhaustive detail."

"The groom's family gave an exhaustive list of the things that they wanted."

"That's a good example. My cousin gave an exhaustive account of his trip to Russia."

"Were you exhausted after listening to his exhaustive account?"

"Well, not really. He had some interesting things to say."

"..that reminds me, is there a difference in meaning between 'I was watching tennis from 6-00 to 7-00' and 'I watched tennis from 6-00 to 7-00?'"

"Hmm. Let me see now. The... "

"...both of them mean the same thing, right?"

"Not exactly! You see when you say, I watched tennis from 6 to 7, it means that you started watching the game at 6-00 and finished watching at 7-00."

"I see. So, if I say I did my homework from 10 to 11, it means I started at 10 O'clock and finished at 11 O'clock?"

"Yes. that's right."

"What about 'I was watching tennis from 6-00 to 7-00'?"

"In that sentence you are not really sure when the person actually started watching the game. The person could have started watching at 6-00 or he might have started watching earlier."

"I see."

Published in The Hindu on October 15, 1996.

Word of the day

Proscribe:
command against

Synonyms: disallow, forbid, interdict, nix, prohibit, veto

Usage: *Such bullets are proscribed in most military camps.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/proscribepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈprəʊˌskraɪb/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

HMT land: Govt. orders suspension of IFoS officer Gokul

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has suspended Additional Principal Conservator of Forests R. Gokul in connection with a case filed in the Supreme Court seeking permission to denotify 443 acres of HMT forest land.

The suspension order states that the IFoS officer without obtaining the approval of the then Minister in-charge or sanction from the State Cabinet, filed an interlocutory application (IA) before the Supreme Court seeking permission for denotification of lands granted to HMT measuring 443 acres 6 guntas at Peenya Jalahalli Plantation.

Following this the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department issued preliminary notices to former IAS officer Sandeep Dave, then Additional Chief Secretary in the department, former IFoS officer Vijay Kumar Gogi, then Principal Secretary in the department, IFoS officer Smitha Bijjur, then Principal Secretary in the department, and Mr. Gokul, then Chief Conservator of Forests and Litigation Conducting officer, in the said IA.

"The replies received by the said officers have been examined by the department and referred along with the opinion of the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms to examine and initiate necessary action," stated the order.

It further stated that after the issue of preliminary notice by the department, Mr. Gokul wrote to the CBI without prior intimation or obtaining permission of the State government for seeking protection with reference to Belekeri port iron ore theft cases and also to investigate the reasons for issuing a notice and defaming through news articles and to provide him adequate protection.

> In violation of Rule 17 of All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968 and the State government is *prima facie* satisfied that it is necessary to place R. Gokul, IFoS under suspension with immediate effect, pending inquiry
> **GOVERNMENT ORDER**

The State government then examined the necessary files and records in the said matter and sought a report on the denotification of lands granted to HMT under Forest Conservation Act, 1980. It also investigated if there are any lapses and any irregularities committed by the officers in the said matter.

"In violation of Rule 17 of All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968 and the State government is *prima facie* satisfied that it is necessary to place R. Gokul, IFoS under suspension with immediate effect, pending inquiry," the order stated.

Excise Dept. registers 2.04L cases in 3 years; ₹102 crore worth of goods seized

Around 1.43 lakh cases booked for allowing liquor or consuming it in an unlicensed public place

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

The Excise Department registered 2.04 lakh cases under various categories from 2022-23 to 2024-25 and seized goods worth over ₹102 crore. Over 1.92 lakh people were arrested for various offences during the period and later released on bail.

The department primarily registers cases under the Karnataka Excise Act, 1965, in three categories – heinous, breach of licence conditions (BLC), and Section 15(A) (allowing or consuming liquor in an unlicensed public place). The seizures included spurious liquor, toddy, and vehicles transporting them.

In 2022-23, 46,778 cases were booked, while in 2023-24, 83,425 cases were booked. In 2024-25, the sleuths registered 73,942 cases.

"The number of cases booked is high as enforcement has been strong at the taluk level. Many NGOs also create awareness among people who have been booked under Section 15(A)," said R. Venkatesh Kumar, Commissioner of Excise.

MRP outlets

About 1.43 lakh cases booked in the last three years were under Section 15(A). These cases include people who consume liquor standing outside MRP outlets, an issue that has been flagged by many resident welfare associations over the years.

However, residents say that they often do not know whom to flag it to when they see people standing in front of liquor shops and consuming alcohol in the open. "We have even confronted the seller as to why he permits it, but he says he has no control once they walk out of the shop," said Bhavana Murthy, a resident of Attur Layout.

A senior official from the department claimed that when they register a case under Section 15(A), they book both the seller and consumer, holding them equally responsible.

Licence conditions

Further, 45,885 cases have been booked under the BLC in three years. While department officials say that any violation of the licence regulations results in these cases, bar owners allege they are being harassed by excise officials, who book cases under the BLC.

S. Guruswamy, president, Federation of Wine Merchants' Association, Karnataka, claimed that shop owners are booked for "silly issues" such as opening the shop early and not maintaining hygiene, while the authorities turn a blind eye to bigger offences in villages. "The enforcement is not strong in villages where spurious liquor is sold. There are dhabas, military hotels, and even petty shops that sell liquor, but the officials turn a blind eye to them. Department officials always trouble the licence holders, especially if we question their ways," he said.

Cases booked under the Excise Act

Year	Heinous cases	BLC	Section 15 (A)	Total
2022 - 23	3,812	14,207	28,759	46,778
2023 - 24	6,644	15,153	61,628	83,425
2024 - 25	4,436	16,525	52,981	73,942
Total cases of each offence	**14,892**	**45,885**	**1,43,368**	**2,04,145**

Source: Excise Department

Two hotel employees killed in accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two hotel employees were killed when their motorcycle crashed into the parapet wall of the Hebbal flyover early on Wednesday. The deceased have been identified as Arjun Bishwakarma, 36, and his friend Don Bahaddur Khaka, 24. According to the police, the duo were hotel employees and the accident happened when they were returning home from Nandi Hills.

Arjun, who was riding the motorcycle in a rash and negligent manner, lost control and collided with the wall of the flyover.

The duo fell on the road and sustained severe injuries. Passers-by, along with the Hebbal traffic police rushed them to a near-by hospital where both of them succumbed.

The Hebbal traffic police have registered a case of death due to negligence, and rash and negligent riding against Arjun for further investigation.

Anjum Parwez is Additional CS to CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Senior IAS officer Anjum Parwez of the 1994 batch has been appointed Additional Chief Secretary to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Mr. Parwez was appointed to the post after L.K. Atheeq retired from service a few months ago.

Mr. Parwez is also placed in the concurrent charge of the post of Additional Chief Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, and Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Department, an order said.

APPOINTMENT

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Central Office, 763, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600002

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Indian Overseas Bank, a leading Public Sector Bank with headquarters in Chennai having geographical presence all over India and abroad, invites applications from **eligible candidates from Banking or Finance/Insurance listed companies** for the captioned recruitment process. The detailed advertisement regarding the eligibility such as Age, Qualification, Experience & Other requirements are available in the Bank's website **www.iob.in** under **"Careers"** page. APPLY ONLINE.

Online Registration: 05.06.2025 – 21.06.2025 (Both days inclusive)

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100 new power sub-stations proposed in State, says George

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

In a move to improve the efficiency of the State's power distribution network, Karnataka is set to establish 100 new sub-stations. The ambitious project is expected to be completed within the designated timeline, according to Energy Minister K.J. George. After a progress review meeting with the district's public representatives here on Wednesday, the Minster told reporters that the project had been conceptualised to develop essential infrastructure aimed at delivering reliable and high-quality power supply.

In Mysuru district alone, 44 power transmission substations were expected to be commissioned within two years, ensuring quality power supply to farmers and the public. Although there was currently no power shortage, lack of basic infrastructure was causing supply issues. To resolve this, the number of power transmission substations was being increased, Mr. George said.

All steps were being taken to provide reliable electricity supply to farmers' pumpsets. Of the 4 lakh illegal pumpsets in the State, 2.5 lakh had been regularised. For pumpsets located within 500 metres of feeders, the department would provide transformers. For pumpsets located beyond 500 metres, solar pump sets would be provided under the Kusum-B scheme, the Minister said.

Solar power

Mr. George said the government had set a target of generating 2,400 megawatts of solar power through feeder solarisation of agricultural pumpsets under the Kusum-C scheme. On June 11, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah would inaugurate the solar power plant established under the Kusum scheme at Thondebhavi in Gauribidanur.

The Energy Minister said that linking Aadhaar with the RR numbers of agricultural pumpsets had sparked rumours about discontinuing free electricity, and clarified that the process aimed at verifying the amount of electricity supplied to farmers and the number of existing connections.

He promised that free electricity would continue for agricultural pumpsets up to 10 HP and that farmers would receive a proper seven-hour electricity supply.

The Minister said after the Chief Minister recently visited the haadis (tribal hamlets), steps had been taken to supply electricity to them, and required infrastructure was being developed.

Additional Chief Secretary of the Energy Department Gaurav Gupta said steps had been taken to provide electricity during the daytime in forest fringe areas.

Smart meter project: George denies kickback charges

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Energy Minister K.J. George has denied the BJP's allegations of "kickbacks" in the smart meter project for power connections in the State.

Speaking to reporters here, he said the BJP made similar allegations with regard to the construction of a steel bridge in Bengaluru. "Now, the bridge has not been built and the people are suffering," he said.

Matter taken to court

However, he said the matter pertaining to smart meters had been taken to the court and the government would respond to legally.

He said the BJP made similar allegations against him in the D.K. Ravi case. He said the CBI probe in the case clearly said he had no involvement. "I was not even called for questioning," he said.

When asked what was the reason for the BJP to keep targeting him, Mr. George asked the reporters to pose the question to the BJP leaders. Responding to queries from reporters on "infighting" in the Congress and the possible change of guard, Mr. George said the Congress did not keep changing its Chief Minister like the BJP did. Siddaramaiah may remain the Chief Minister for five years or 10 years as long he enjoys the support of the people.

He pointed out that Mr. Siddaramaiah enjoyed the support of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP), including Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar.

Disruption in power today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Residents across multiple localities in Bengaluru are expected to experience a power shutdown on Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. due to planned maintenance work, according to a notification issued by Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Ltd. (Bescom).

The areas serviced by the 66-kV Banaswadi to HBR Line and 66-kV Banaswadi to ITI Line will be affected.

The following areas are expected to be affected: HRBR Layout (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Blocks), Kammanahalli Main Road, CMR Road, Babusapalya, Balachandra Layout, Flower Garden, M.M. Garden, Arkavathy Layout, Anjanadri Layout Enclave, Divya Unnathy Layout, Vijayendra Garden, Mallappa Layout, Prakruthi Township, Balaji Layout, GNR Garden, Chelekere and Chelekere village, Samudrika Enclave, and surrounding areas.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, JUN. 05
RISE 05:53 SET 18:44
RISE 14:01 SET 01:34

FRIDAY, JUN. 06
RISE 05:53 SET 18:44
RISE 14:46 SET 02:07

SATURDAY, JUN. 07
RISE 05:53 SET 18:44
RISE 15:33 SET 02:42

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	24
Mysuru	30	20
Bengaluru	28	21

Bengaluru Today
30°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
31°C The weather will be dry. Day wil be slight warm. Night will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General, my client- **MAMATHA.V**, wife of H.P. Prabhakar Naika, aged about 53 years, r/at No.662, 13th Cross, NGEF Layout, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru-560072, intend to purchase the property which is fully described in the schedule given hereunder from (1) **Miss. S. VANITHA,** Aged about 38 years, (2) **Miss. S. YAMINI,** Aged about 31 years, & (3) **Miss. S. PRIYA,** Aged about 28 years, daughters of late Sreedhar Govinda Swamy Naidu, all are residing at No.51/71, 21st Main, Marenahalli, Vijayanagara, VTC Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560 040.

Notice is hereby given to any person/Govt./Local Bodies/Banks claiming any right, title or interest over the said property may inform the same to my client's counsel stated below, in writing together with all details and documents in support of such claim within **10 (Ten) days** from the date of this Notice.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of BDA **Site No.463, Digital Khata/E-PID No. 4717803710, measuring East to West : 12 meters and North to South : 9 meters, totally measuring 108 sq. meters,** formed by the Bengaluru Development Authority, Situated at 14th Block, Second Stage, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru -560 072, presently within the limits of BBMP Ward No.129-Jnanabharathi, **along with 2400 sq. ft. RCC roofed House Building (GF 800 sq. feet, FF 800 sq. feet, SF 800 sq. feet,),** with vitrified tiles, with all civic amenities and the same is bounded as follows:

On or towards East : Site No.492; On or towards West : Road; On or towards North : Site No.462; On or towards South : Site No.464;

G.R. GANGADHARA, Advocate
431, 2nd Floor, Alankar Pearl Plaza, K.G.Road, Bengaluru-560009. Mob: +91 9740296679
Email:grgangadhara@gmail.com
Place : Bengaluru Date : 04.06.2025

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER
(Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites Tenders from registered Agencies for the following Works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Sl. No.	Amount Put to Tender / EMD Amount	Last Date & Time for Submission of Tender	Date & Time for Opening of Tender
1	(East-1)	BWSSB/EE(E)-1/PB/372/ 2025-26 Dated: 29-05-2025 (9th Call)	1	Rs. 33,47,082/- / Rs. 67,000/-	13-06-2025 Upto 4.00 PM	16-06-2025 After 5.00 PM
		BWSSB/EE(E)-1/PB/372/ 2025-26 Dated: 29-05-2025 (10th Call)	2	Rs. 68,64,424/- / Rs. 1,37,300/-		
		BWSSB/EE(E)-1/PB/372/ 2025-26 Dated: 29-05-2025 (12th Call)	3	Rs. 44,62,393/- / Rs. 89,300/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (East-1)

Office of the Chief Engineer (West), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

2	(North-West-2)	BWSSB/EE(NW)-2/TO/PB/ 218/2025-26 Dated: 03-06-2025	1	Rs. 32,41,262/- / Rs. 64,900/-	15-06-2025 Upto 4.00 PM	16-06-2025 After 4.30 PM

Sd/- Executive Engineer (North-West-2)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-Procurement Portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. For further details contact the above signed office during working hours. DIPR/CP/Adverto/1063/2025-26

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Central Railway, Solapur on Behalf of President of India, invites e-tender from the reputed firms / contractor for the following works.

Tender Notice No.	Name of Work	Approximate Cost of the work	Earnest Money	Completion period of the work	Maintenance Period
12-2025-SrDENC	Comprehensive sewage treatment plant with OH tank and UG tank, water pipe line waste water flow system at Soapur	Rs. 3,28,76,473.87	Rs. 3,14,400.00	12 Months	24 Months
Last date & Time of uploading quoted tender on www.ireps.gov.in website.		19.06.2025 upto 15:00 hrs			
Date & Time of Opening of tender on www.ireps.gov.in		19.06.2025 at 15:30 hrs			

The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigendum issued for this tender. Website: www.ireps.gov.in.

Divisonal Railway Manager (Works), Central Railway, Solapur

SUN 72 अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन को पार करना दंडनीय अपराध है

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Central Railway, Solapur on Behalf of President of India, invites e-tender from the reputed firms / contractor for the following works.

Tender Notice No.	Name of Work	Approximate Cost of the work	Earnest Money	Completion period of the work	Maintenance Period
11-2025-SrDENC	DD-KWV TRR(P) - 15.4 km, KWV-LUR TRR(P) - 16.4 km, DD-KWV-TBR 10.5 Km, Casual renewal of rail - 6 Km & casual renewal of sleepers 7 Km, CTR(P)-1.605, TRR(P) - 2.579 km & TRR(S) -2.95 Km in yards, renewal of SEJ with TWSEJ and Glued joints, TTR (TWS-WCMS) in ADEN/KWV, PVR & LUR section under Sr. DEN(C) SUR jurisdiction in Solapur division.	Rs. 6,96,04,479.58	Rs. 4,98,000.00	12 Months	NIL
12-2025-SrDENC	Miscellaneous P.way Work Under SSE/P.way/LUR under ADEN/LUR Sub-division for a period of two years.	Rs. 2,95,63,147.47	Rs. 2,97,800.00	24 Months	NIL
13-2025-SrDENC	Miscellaneous P.way Work Under SSE/P.way/BTW under ADEN/LUR Sub-division for a period of two years.	Rs. 2,96,24,322.05	Rs. 2,98,100.00	24 Months	NIL
Last date & Time of uploading quoted tender on www.ireps.gov.in website.		23.06.2025 upto 15:00 hrs			
Date & Time of Opening of tender on www.ireps.gov.in		23.06.2025 at 15:30 hrs			

The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigendum issued for this tender. Website: www.ireps.gov.in.

Divisonal Railway Manager (Works), Central Railway, Solapur

SUN 70 अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन को पार करना दंडनीय अपराध है

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-18/377/2025-26 Date: 04.06.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item rate Tenders under two cover system are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Class-II & above (Electrical) Contractors registered in KCEI who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:

Name of the Works : (1) Re-Conditioning, Operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights at IT SEZ, NON IT SEZ & Canara Industrial Area at Dakshina Kannada District, Mangaluru District. (Reserved for CAT-II(A)). **(2)** Re-Conditioning, Operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights of Karnad Industrial Area at Dakshina Kannada District & Belapu Industrial Areas at Udupi District, Mangaluru Zone. (Others). **(3)** Re-Conditioning, Operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights at Gejjalagere, Somanahalli and Tubinakere Industrial Areas of Mandya District. (Reserved for ST). **(4)** Re-conditioning, Operation and Annual Maintenance of Streetlights at Harohalli Industrial Area, 3rd Phase, Ramanagara District. (Reserved for SC). **(5)** Re-Conditioning, Operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights at Hebbal 2nd Phase I.A. of Mandya District & Kushalnagar Industrial Areas of Kodagu District, Mysuru District. (Reserved for SC). **(6)** Re-Conditioning, operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights at Baikampady Industrial Area at Dakshinakannada District, Mangaluru Zone. (Others). **(7)** Re-conditioning, Operation and Annual Maintenance of Streetlights at Avverahalli Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Bengaluru Rural District. (Others). **(8)** Re-Conditioning, Operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights at Vasanthanarasapura Industrial Area 3rd Phase & Housing Layout Tumakuru District. (Others). **(9)** Re-conditioning, Operation and Annual Maintenance of Streetlights at Harohalli Industrial Area, 1st and 2nd Phase, Ramanagara District. (Others). **(10)** Re-Conditioning, Operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights at Vasanthanarasapura Industrial Area 2nd Phase & JIP, Tumakuru District. (Others). **(11)** Re-conditioning, Operation and Annual Maintenance of Streetlights at Dobaspet & Sompura Industrial Area 1st & 2nd Phase, Bengaluru Rural District. (Others). **(12)** Re-Conditioning, Operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights at Koorgalli, Belawadi, Hootgallli Industrial Area of Mysuru District. (Others). **(13)** Re-Conditioning, Operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights at Hebbal & Belagola Industrial Areas of Mysuru District. (Others). **(14)** Re-Conditioning, Operation & Annual Maintenance of Street Lights at Adakanahalli, Women's park 1st & 2nd Phase, Thandya 2nd Phase, Immavu Industrial Areas of Mysuru District. (Reserved for CAT-II(A))

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **25.06.2025** upto **4.00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/1076/NR/2025-26

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, KARNATAKA
No. 16, 2nd and 3rd floor, Ballari Road, Sadashiva Nagara, Bengaluru-560080
Tele No: 080-22205189/ 193, Email: karsec@gmail.com

No.: SECK/ADMN/ETND/1/2025-RLB Date: 04.06.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

An e-tender has been invited through the KPP portal (Tender No.KSEC/2025-26/SE0002/CALL-2) for the services related to preparation, printing of Electoral Roll and other printing works from the office of the Karnataka State Election Commission. The tender can be submitted through the e-portal by **dated:11.06.2025 time 5:25 pm.** Details related to the tender can be obtained from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kpp.karnataka.gov.in** or the above office can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/- Under Secretary,
State Election Commission, Karnataka.

DIPR/CP/JA/1080/2025-26

Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM)
Department of Labour Resources, Government of Bihar
A-Wing, 5th Floor, Niyojan Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna-800001
Phone: 0612-2528455 Fax: 0612-2535004
Email: biharskilldevelopmentmission@gmail.com , Website: www.skillmissionbihar.org

Notice Inviting Request for Proposal

RFP No: BSDM/MCRC/RFP-94/2025

Principal Secretary, Dept. of Labour Resources, Govt. of Bihar- cum- CEO, Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM), invites proposals (Two Bid System) from reputed and experienced Agencies **for Establishing, Operating and Maintenance of 10 Migration Counselling Cum Registration Center/s (MCRCs) which will be opened within Bihar at various specified locations for Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM).**

With a view to provide crucial services to strengthen the support services to the migrants from Bihar under the BSDM's programs, it is proposed to empanel services of reputed, professional and competent organizations for Establishing (including space, infrastructure & office set-up), Operating and Maintenance of Migration Counselling Cum Registration Center/s.

Kindly note that the selection of agency under this RFP will not guarantee allocation of work and BSDM will assume no liability or cost towards it. BSDM makes no commitments, express or implied, that this process will result in a business transaction between anyone.

Document Fee and Tender Processing Fee: All Applicants have to pay a **non-refundable Document Fee of Rs. 5,000/-** (Five Thousand only) and Tender Processing Fee of Rs. **590.00** or as applicable (Five hundred ninety only) **through e-payment mode** (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/Credit Card/Debit Card) on E-Proc Portal.

Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): An EMD of Rs. **2,00,000/-** (Two Lac) **through e-payment mode only** (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/Credit or Debit Card) on E-Proc Portal, well before the last date/time for submission/ uploading of offer/Bid, failing which the bid will be rejected. This EMD will be non-interest bearing and refundable. If the selected bidder fails to submit the requisite performance guarantee or to execute the agreement, this EMD will be forfeited.

The Proposal has to be submitted through online mode on https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and can be searched by clicking the Tab "Tender" on home page of above website and then going to Latest Tender by searching Department Name as "Labour Resources Department".

The Proposal has to be submitted in online mode containing following cover stage-
A) Technical Bid Open Stage and B) Cost Bid Open Stage

The application procedure, eligibility criteria, evaluation methodology, terms and conditions and the scope of work are detailed in this RFP which can be seen or downloaded from the "e-Procurement Portal https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and departmental **website:** http://www.skillmissionbihar.org. The RFP will be available to download from the above websites from **04.06.2025**. The **Pre-bid meeting** will be held on **15:00 Hrs. of 12.06.2025 (through physical mode).** The last date for uploading of proposal/bid will be **26.06.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs.** Technical Bid will be opened on or after **26.06.2025 post 15:00 Hrs. The Evaluation of Bids will be under QCBS system.** Please refer RFP document for complete details.

The undersigned reserves the right to issue addendum/corrigendum/modification or to amend any or all conditions of this RFP Document or to accept or reject any or all proposal(s) or to cancel the whole of this RFP at any stage without assigning any reason thereof and no bidder shall have any cause of action or claim against the undersigned for the same.

Mission Director,
Bihar Skill Development Mission,
Department of Labour Resources,

PR. No. 005258 (LRD) 2025-26

This information is available on website www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar also

अपने जीवन साथी के प्रति वफादार रहें,
किसी अनजान स्त्री/पुरूष से असुरक्षित यौन संबंध से बचें।

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www.thehinduads.com
CALL: Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ▪ 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ▪ 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ▪ 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shahina Noormohamed W/o. Noormohamed born on, 05/05/1964 place of birth, Kelamanglam Tamil Nadu residing at D.no 58, Shanthi Nagar 3rd Cross, Hosur Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu-635109 (shall hence forth be known as) Shayinabee Noormohamed W/o. Noormohamed.

I, MITAL Patel, d/o: Rameshbhai, r/o: 11, 1st Floor, G Ramaiah Layout, Hebbal, Kempapura, Bengaluru–560024. Have Changed My Name To Patel Mitalben Dipeshbhai. Vide Affidavit Date On 27/05/25

I, ANKITA Bedwal, W/o Debojit Dhar Choudhury, R/a N104, Concorde Manhattans Apartments, Neeladri Road, Electronic City Phase I, Bangalore have changed my name from Ankita Dhar Choudhury to Ankita Bedwal vide affidavit dt: 31.05.2025 sworn before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, B'lore

I, FAHMIDA Begum Abdur Rahim, W/o Abdur Rahim R/a #159, 4th Cross, 2nd Main Road, Vinobha Nagar, K.G.Halli, Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to Fahmida Begum vide affidavit dt: 30.05.2025 sworn before Notary R.Basavaraja, B'luru

I, Shahidha Kathoon Sadiq Ali (Dob: 15/01/1980) place of birth Kachhuhiya Janubi, Uttarpradesh, present Residing At, D.no 24/46 Shanthi Nagar West, Near Masjid Hosur Krishnagiri Tamil Nadu- 635109 have changed the name as Shahidha Kathoon and my spouse Sadiq Ali changed the name into Mohammed Sadiq Ali, and shall be henceforth knownas Shahidha Kathoon W/o. Mohammed Sadiq Ali.

I, SADIQ Ali Mohammed Sirajuddeen (DOB: 12/06/1975) Place of birth Padrauna, Uttarpradesh, present residing at DNO 24/46 Shanthi Nagar West Hosur Krishnagiri Tamil Nadu – 635109 have changed the name as Mohammed Sadiq Ali and my Father name Mohammed Sirajuddeen Changed the name into Sirajuddeen (shall be henceforth known) as Mohammed Sadiq Ali S/O Sirajuddin.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHIKHA Tiwari, Spouse of Anjni Kumar Tiwari residing at SMQ 11/1, A F Station, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560063 have changed my name from Shikha Tiwari to Shikha Dubey vide affidavit dated 04-06-2025 sworn before Notary H.Sridhar Rao, Bangalore.

I, LUBNA Veronica, W/o Vincent Arockia Nathan, residing at #126/1, 10th Cross, Bharatiyar Road, Ramaswamy Palya, Bengaluru-560033, have changed my name to Lubna Banu vide affidavit dated 02/06/2025, sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bengaluru.

LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE DISTRICT CONSUMER REDRESSAL COMMISSION (SOUTH) AT CHENNAI
C.C. No.380 of 2024

Dr.Babu Elangovan
S/o.Mr.A.Elangovan
L-1,3RD Avenue,Indira Nagar
Adyar,Chennai-600 020 ...Complainant

-Vs-

1.M/s. Fedex Express Transportation
...Opposite party

To,
M/s.Fedex Express Transportation
Supply Chain Services Private Limited,
No.4,Present No.4-1,Dasarapura
Hobli behind Himalaya Drugs,
Adakamaranahalli,Village
Tumkur Road,Karnataka
Bangaluru-650 300

Please take notice that in the abovecase filed by the Complainant, the Hon'ble District Consumer Redressal Commission (South) at Chennai was pleased direct the complainant to effect service/summons to you through Paper Publication and adjourned the matter to 12.06.2025 for your appearance. Kindly be -present at 10.00 a.m. on 12.06.2025 at above mentioned court either in person or through your counsel without fail, otherwise matter will decided in your absence.

K.M.VIVEKANANDAN
Advocate for complainant
9382662424

PUBLIC NOTICE

"FORM NO. INC-26"
[Pursuant to rule 30 the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014]

Advertisement to be published in the newspaper for change of registered office of the company from one state to another

Before the Central Government
Regional Director (South East Region)
In the matter of sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Companies Act, 2013 and clause (a) of sub-rule (5) of rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014
AND
In the matter of
EVENZ ELITE ENTERTAINMENT PRIVATE LIMITED
CIN : U92419KA2023PTC169809
having its Registered Office at Ambit V PO 15, Block A4 630, DHI Innovation Park, Arakere, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore, Bangalore South, Karnataka, 560 076,
.....Petitioner

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the company proposes to make application to the Central Government under Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 seeking confirmation of alteration of the Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the special resolution passed at the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on 15/05/2025 to enable the company to change its Registered Office from "State of Karnataka" to "State of Kerala".

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the company may deliver **either on the MCA-21 portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filing investor complaint form** or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition to the Regional Director (South East Region) at the address Regional Director (South East Region), Ministry of Corporate Affairs, 3rd Floor, Corporate Bhavan, Bandlaguda, Nagole, Tattiannaram Village, Hayat Nagar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500068, Telangana, within fourteen days of the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant company at its registered office at the address mentioned below:
Evenz Elite Entertainment Private Limited
Ambit V PO 15, Block A4 630, DHI Innovation Park, Arakere, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore, Bangalore South, Karnataka, 560 076

For and on behalf of Applicant
Evenz Elite Entertainment Private Limited
Sd/-
Anu Shaji
Director
DIN : 09846908

Place : Bangalore
Date : 05.06.2025

TENDERS

COCHIN PORT
COCHIN PORT AUTHORITY
Mechanical Engineering Department, Cochin - 682009
TENDER NOTICE
SITC of 1.5 MW Grid connected floating Solar PV project under RESCO Model.
Visit: www.gem.gov.in
www.cochinport.gov.in
For Corrigendum visit Website
Sd/-, Chief Mechanical Engineer

Three killed in road accident in Nanjangud

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Three persons, including two women, died when their motorcycle collided with a truck near Hullahalli in Nanjangud taluk near here on Wednesday.

According to police, Chikkaswamy, 45, a resident of Hanchipura village, his wife Roopa, 38, and his mother-in-law Channamallamma, 55, a resident of Konenuru village, were returning from a wedding in Gaddige when their motorcycle collided with a truck on the road to Hullahalli.

Their bodies were shifted to Nanjangud government hospital for a post-mortem. The driver of the truck has been detained while senior police officials visited the spot. A case was registered at Hullahalli police station.

Thales opens in-flight entertainment lab in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Thales, a French aerospace and defence firm, has opened an in-flight entertainment and services lab in Bengaluru.

Opening the lab marked a significant step towards enhancing both the passenger experience and operational efficiency of carriers globally, said Olivier Flous, senior vice-president, Engineering & Digital Transformation, Thales, here on Wednesday.

The new lab, opened at its existing Engineering Competence Centre in the city, will be dedicated to the development of in-flight entertainment (IFE) solutions and advanced tools for support and services to airlines, reinforcing India's strategic position as an innovation hub for Thales. "Our engineers at Thales in India will design, develop, and test innovative solutions to support the needs of Indian airlines and global customers," officials at Thales said. According to the company, this lab will serve as a hub for the design, development, and testing of next-generation IFE systems. The lab would be equipped with advanced tools to support and serve airlines in India and around the world. Mr. Flous said this new facility underscored Thales' commitment towards developing future-ready aviation technologies in India, for India, and for the world.

Marc Lamy, Consul General of France in Bengaluru, said, the inauguration of this lab was a moment of immense pride, reflecting the vibrant spirit of innovation and partnership that defines both nations, France and India.

State's Industries Minister M.B. Patil said, Thales has been contributing significantly towards the growth of aerospace, defence, and cybersecurity and digital identity in Bengaluru and in India for years.

RIT hosts 'Pradarshana'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ramaiah Institute of Technology (RIT) hosted 'Pradarshana 2025', its annual open-day project exhibition, on Wednesday, featuring 430 student-led innovations.

Raj Gopalakrishna, distinguished alumnus and CTO of Acalvio Technologies, was the chief guest. Twenty-six standout projects received funding from the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology and RIT's Seed Funding Scheme.

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR
[ICAR, NAAC accredited and UGC u/s 12(B) & 2(f) approved]
Stores Purchase Officer, UAS, Raichur - 584104,
E-mail: spo@uasraichur.edu.inPh: 08532-220165

E-Tender Notification No. SPO/UASR/E-Proc-02/2025-26, Dt: 03-06-2025.

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur is inviting e-tender notification for Expansion work of existing IT Enabled smart campus.The interested suppliers are requested to participate through online only. Thewebsite address iswww.kppp.karnataka.gov.in(Indent Number:-UASRCR/2025-26/IND0054. The last date for submission of filled in Tender Document is 02-07-2025.

Sd/- Stores Purchase Officer
DIP/RCR/155/KSMCA/155 /2025-26 **UAS, Raichur.**

KERALA STATE COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT (KSCSTE)
Sasthrabhavan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram - 695004.
Phone: 0471- 2548316, website : www.kscste.kerala.gov.in

NOTIFICATION (JUNIOR SCIENTIST)

The KSCSTE invites application for the post of Junior Scientist (Scientist B). The application should be submitted through online only.
For details log on to www.kscste.kerala.gov.in.
Last date for the receipt of application is 28.06.2025, 5.00 p.m
(D3/436/2025/I&PRD) **MEMBER SECRETARY**

COIMBATORE CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Tender Notice No.e32/2025 Date : 03.06.2025
Development Charges and General Fund (Two Cover System)

1. Bids are invited for – Central Zone - Modernization of Ukkadam Bus Stand under **Development Charges and General Fund.**
2. Total Estimate Amount **Rs.2,155.00 lakhs.**
3. Tender documents are available for free download on **www.tntenders.gov.in.** All tender details can be found on the websites.
4. Any additional/further details and conditions related to these works can be had from the office of the Commissioner, Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation.
5. **Important dates**
   1. Date and time of Pre-bid meeting : **23.06.2025** at **11.00 A.M.**
   2. Last Date and time for downloading bid documents : **08.07.2025** at **3.00 P.M.**
   3. Last Date and time for submission of bid document, including online submission : **08.07.2025** at **3.00 P.M.**
   4. Date and time of opening of the Technical Bid : **09.07.2025** at **4.00 P.M.**
6. In the event of the specified date for submission of bids is declared as a holiday, bids will be received and opened on the next working day at the same time. **The Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, Big Bazaar Street, Coimbatore – 641001. Phone No.0422 2396026. Email: commr.coimbatore@tn.gov.in**

DIPR/2836/TENDER/2025 **Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation.**

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, YANAM

No. 116/PW/EE/DB/YNM/2025-26, Dated 04-06-2025
The Executive Engineer, Yanam Division, P.W.D., Yanam invites on behalf of the President of India. Online bids for the following work.
Tender No.11/EEY/2025-26.
Name of work:- Construction of Hostel building to Training Centre of Sports Authority of India (SAI) at Yanam. **Estimate Cost:- ₹5,03,26,869/-** (inclusive of GST). **Earnest Money: ₹10,06,537/-** Period of Completion: **15 (Fifteen) Months** (including Monsoon Period). Last time & date of submission of tender **19-06-2025** at **4.00 P.M.** The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website **www.pudutenders.gov.in** **Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
BENGALURU URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH
Olo Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, First Floor,
Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road,
Banashankari (Near Banashankari Temple), Bengaluru 560070.
Phone No: 080-26716046 Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

No.EE/PRED/BNG(U)/TND/AE-1/08/2025-26 Dated:03.06.2025

KPPP Tender Notice (Single Cover System)

Tenders are invited through KPPP Portal by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Bangalore Urban, For Women and Child Development, Samagra Shikshana, MUZRAI & MLA GRANTS Works. The work details can obtained from the KPPP Web Site The Tender Documents can be obtained and submitted on or before **Dated: 21.06.2025 upto 4.00 pm.** Further details can be obtained from web site at **http://www.KPPP.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office during office working hours.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division,
DIPR/CP/1062/SSC/2025-26 **Bangalore Urban Dist, Bangalore.**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಹಾಸನ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹಾಸನ
HASSAN INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, HASSAN (An Autonomous Institute under the Dept of Medical Education, Government of Karnataka) SRI CHAMARAJENDRA HOSPITAL CAMPUS, HASSAN
Website: https://himshassan.karnataka.gov.in/
Phone/Fax No.08172-231699, 231599,
Email:directorhims@yahoo.com
No: HIMS/TS(1)/ME/FSA/08/2024-25 Date:31.05.2025

RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement only)
https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

HIMS, Hassan, invites tender for supply of Medical Equipments to Various Department of HIMS Teaching Hospital, Hassan, from the manufacturer or authorized dealers in two cover bid system as per KTTP Act-1999. SL.No.1)Department: Urology: Equipments: Uretero Renoscopy(URS)06/7.5Fr Qty: 01 02)Urology: Equipments: Uretero Renoscopy(URS)08/9.5Fr Qty: 01 03)Urology: Equipments:Nephroscope 15.8 Fr Qty: 01 04)Urology: Equipments:Nephroscope 15.8 Fr Qty: 01 05)Urology: Equipments:Uroflowmetry Qty: 01 06)Urology: Equipments:Lithortripsy Machine Qty: 01 07)Urology: Equipments:Laser machine for General Surgery Qty: 01 08)Anesthesiology: Equipments: Adult Intubating Manikin Qty: 01 09)Anesthesiology: Equipments: Nerve Simulator Qty: 01 10)Opthalomology Equipments: Fundas Camera Qty: 01 EMD(Rs.)Refer Tender Document The Supplier can have access to e-tender documents from 04.06.2025 through website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on payment of transaction fee (non-refundable) as fixed by e-portal. Last date for submission of tender application is up to 18.06.2025 5:00 p.m,. For further details contact the undersigned in the office during working hours or through website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/-Chief Administrative Officer, Hassan
Institute of Medical Science, Hassan.
ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಹಿಸನ/ಹಾಸನ/175/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿ/2025–26

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
E-TENDER NOTICE (3rd call)

MSETCL SRM invites online RFx (e-Tender) from the Registered Contractors for MAHATRANSCO e-Tendering (SRM) website for below mentioned work.
E-tender No./ RFx No. 7000036605 Name of work: "3rd Call for- 1] Replacement of old 0.35 ACSR Sheep conductor with new 0.4 ACSR Zebra conductor and existing suspension tower with 30° Cut point towers2] Height raising by new narrow base tower NDX+12 from Loc. No. 637 to 646 in vichumbe & new Panvel area of 220 kV Kandalgaon – ONGC – Vilebhagad – Topworth D/C line under jurisdiction of EHV O&M Division Panvel & EHV O&M Circle, Mahad under EHV O&M Circle, Panvel." Estimated Cost: 46,11,99,472/- including GST Tender Fees: Rs. 25000/-+ GST.
Date for Sale and Submission of the e-Tender Documents: From 05.06.2025 @ 15.00 Hrs to 05.07.2025 @ 15.30 Hrs. For detailed information visit our website: https://srmetender.mahatransco.in

-Sd-
CHIEF ENGINEER, EHV PC (O&M) Zone, **Vashi**

Karnataka Forest Department
Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forests
Puttur Sub Division, Puttur
No:ACF/CR/Tender/2025-26 dated: 03-06-2025

Invitation for Tenderers for Forestry Works (Through e-procurement Portal)

Sub: Inviting Notification for Tenderers for Forestry Works
Notifications of invitation for Tenderers to participate in Afforestation and other Works in Mangaluru Forest Division is called for in e-portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The last date for submission is on or before 17.00 hours of 18.06.2025 technical bid open on **20.06.2025 at 11.00 am,** financial Bid open on **21.06.2025 at 11.00 am**. In case none of the contractor participating in this tender re-tender will be continued for submission is on or before 17.00 hours of **27.06.2025** technical bid open on **30.06.2025 at 11.00 am,** financial Bid open on **01.07.2025 at 11.00 am.** For more details please contact this office landline **Phone No 0824 2411242** in Working hours during working days.

DIPR/ADM/KSMCA/272/25-26 dt.04.06.2025 **Sd/-, Asst. Conservator of Forests Puttur Sub Division, Puttur**

SANJEEVINI-Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society
Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Department
Office of the Mission Director, Sanjeevini-KSRLPS
4, 2nd Floor, MYSUGAR Building, J.C. Road, Near Town Hall
Bengaluru-560002 email: nrlmkarnataka@gmail.com

EXTENSION OF DATE

Subject: Extension of Date for Expression of Interest (EoI) under Deen Dayal Upadhya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana 2.0 (DDU-GKY 2.0) project in the State of Karnataka.
Ref: This office Letter No. KSRLPS/DDU-GKY 2.0/Gen/EoI/01/2025-26 dated 15.05.2024.
Reference is invited to the Expression of Interest (EoI) for empanelment of Agencies under Deen Dayal Upadhya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana 2.0 (DDU-GKY 2.0) project in the State of Karnataka.
In view of several Agencies Permanent Registration Number (PRN) are currently under evaluation at the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) level and ensure the level playing field for all eligible applicants, the last date for submission of Expression of Interest (EoI) is hereby extended as under:
Revised Date:
Previous Last date: 06.06.2025
Extended Last Date: 27.06.2025
DIPR/CP/1046/CCL/2025-26

Sd/-
Mission Director
National Livelihood Mission, Karnataka

Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bangalore
(A Government of Karnataka Institutions)
No.8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru – 560052.

KREIS/INFR/OTH/97/2025-ADMN/E-214763 Date: 04.06.2025

TENDER NOTIICATION (Through E-Tendering Only)

Tenders have been invited on 04.06.2025 for Supply of Plates and Tumblers to functioning under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society across Karnataka. Through e-Portal vide Indent No: **KREIS/2025-26/IND0063** and the last date for receipt of tenders is **04.07.2025**. The details may be viewed in the **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** website.

Sd/- Joint Director (Admin) and Tender Inviting Authority
DIPR/CP/1073/AKAR/22-23 **KREIS, Bengaluru.**

SANJEEVINI-Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society
Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Department
Office of the Mission Director, Sanjeevini-KSRLPS
4, 2nd Floor, MYSUGAR Building, J.C. Road, Near Town Hall
Bengaluru-560002 email: nrlmkarnataka@gmail.com

EXTENSION OF DATE

Subject: Extension of Date for Expression of Interest (EoI) under Deen Dayal Upadhya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana 2.0 (DDU-GKY 2.0) Captive Employment project in the State of Karnataka.
Ref: This office Letter No. KSRLPS/DDU-GKY 2.0/Captive/EoI/01/2025-26 dated 15.05.2024.
Reference is invited to the Expression of Interest (EoI) for empanelment of Agencies under Deen Dayal Upadhya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana 2.0 (DDU-GKY 2.0) Captive Employment project in the State of Karnataka.
In view of several Agencies Permanent Registration Number (PRN) are currently under evaluation at the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) level and ensure the level playing field for all eligible applicants, the last date for submission of Expression of Interest (EoI) is hereby extended as under:
Revised Date:
Previous Last date: 06.06.2025
Extended Last Date: 27.06.2025
DIPR/CP/1047/CCL/2025-26

Sd/-
Mission Director
National Livelihood Mission, Karnataka

Karnataka Mining Environment Restoration Corporation
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.49, Khanija Bhavan, West Wing, 2nd Floor, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.
Tel: 080-22354737/22354738 E-mail: kmerc2014@gmail.com
No: KMERC/ADMN/214668/ECO/2025-26/310 Date: 03.06.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited by Karnataka Mining Environment Restoration Corporation through e-Procurement portal for "Empanelment of Consultant Organizations for Concurrent Monitoring and Evaluation of Construction works".
The details can be downloaded from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Last date for uploading the tender is **21.06.2025.** For any clarification, contact on telephone.
(KMERC: 080-22354737/22354738 and KPPP Mobile: 8046010000/8068948777)

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager (T)
KMERC
DIPR/CP/1050/MAA/25-26

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

KPTCL invites bids for the following works :

No. SEE/Tr(Op)/South-Circle/EE(O)/AEE-2/25-26/F-310(01)/802-03 Date : 03-06-2025

1) Bid enquiry no: **KPTCL/SEE/TR(Op)/S-Circle/EE(O)/AEE-4/24-25/EPR-90/Call-2 Dt:04.03.2025** for **Providing new 11kV C&R Panel at 66/11kV National College Substations pertaining to Operation Division HSR Layout in the jurisdiction of Transmission (Operation) South Circle, Bengaluru on Total turnkey basis**

No. SEE/Tr(Op)/Circle-South/AEE-4/F-122(34)/25-26/808-10 Date : 03-06-2025

2) KPTCL invites short term tender against enquiry No: **KPTCL/SEE/TR(O)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/F-122(34)/25-26/EPR-06 Dated: 31.05.2025** for **Reconditioning of 100MVA, 220/66/11kV Power transformer-2 [Make: BHEL, Sl no. 2041611], pertaining to 220kV station, Somanahalli at KPTCL repair bay Peenya, Commissioning 220kV Station, Somanahalli, Bengaluru.**

No. SEE/Tr(Op)/Cir-South/EE(O)/JE-1/F-/25-26/814-18 Date : 03-06-2025

3) Bid enquiry No: KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-1/JE-1/24-25/EPR-60 CALL-4 Dated 20.11.2024 for **Design, Manufacture, Testing and Supply of 11KV UG Cables of the size 1CX1000 Sq.mm to various 220/66/11kV & 66/11kV Sub-stations coming under BMAZ South Circle, KPTCL Bengaluru conforming to Technical Specifications. F.O.R.D at Store/Site basis, including insurance, transportation and unloading.**

The Bids will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink 'E Procurement KPTCL' or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **for Sl. No. 1 is on 06.06.2025 and for Sl. No. 2 & 3 is on 05.06.2025.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.),
Transmission (Operation), Circle-South, KPTCL,
Office Complex, Ground Floor, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru–09.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.CEE/BGKT/Tr(O)Z/EE(C)/AEE(C)/25-26/3347-54 Date: 04.06.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal mode only)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited, Invites Tender for the following work.

Bid Enquiries no: **KPTCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT2310** Tender for providing Area fencing to the KPTCL of proposed 400/220kV S/S Lokapur.

The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the E-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or directly logging on to website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **04.06.2024 at 05.30 pm**. Other details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- Chief Engineer Electy.,
Transmission (Operations) Zone, Zonal Complex,
KPTCL, Opp to Sector No.45, 110kv Station, Grid Premises,
Navanagar, Bagalkote-587103. Ph:08354-233692

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the General public/ Whomsoever it may concern that my client **SMT.GEETHA.G.** W/o. S.Munirajappa, residing at House No. 503, Nisarga Nilaya, KEB Layout, Harohalli Village, Yelahanka, Bengaluru -560 064, is intending to purchase the schedule property belonging to Smt.Parvathamma W/o Mallikarjuna, residing at Torenagasandra village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru-562123. She represents that, she is the absolute owner and having clear and marketable title to the schedule property. Any persons, firm, institution including Financial institution claiming to have any right/title/interest/claims or enforceable right in the schedule property either as the owner or in any other manner of objection for such alienation may lodge their objections with documentary proof within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, with the undersigned, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims and objections subsist and thereafter my client shall proceed to complete the sale transaction with owner referred above.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Old Survey 12/1, New Survey No.12/7 measuring to an extent of 0.06.08 guntas situated at Narasipura Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded on
East by : Property belonging to Pushpa.
West by : Property belonging to Puttanna.
North by : Property belonging to Muddappa
South by: Property retained by Seller, Smt. Parvathamma. .

N. MOHAN KUMAR Advocate
No.35, 1st Floor, 1st Block, 5th Cross,
Near Gandhinagar Higher Secondary School,
Kumara Park West, Seshadripuram,
Bengaluru-20 Ph:9731719219,
email: mohankumar13783@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the General public/ Whomsoever it may concern that my client **N. Mohan Kumar** S/o Late.N.Narasimhaiah, Residing at No.366, Near Ramakrishna Apartments, Doddabommasandra, Vidyaranyapura Main Road, Bengaluru-560097 is intending to purchase the schedule property belonging to Smt.Parvathamma W/o Mallikarjuna, residing at Torenagasandra village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru-562123. She represents that, she is the absolute owner and having clear and marketable title to the schedule property. Any persons, firm, institution including Financial institution claiming to have any right/title/ interest/claims or enforceable right in the schedule property either as the owner or in any other manner of objection for such alienation may lodge their objections with documentary proof within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, with the undersigned, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims and objections subsist and thereafter my client shall proceed to complete the sale transaction with owner referred above.

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West by : Property belonging to Puttanna.
North by: Property retained by Seller, Smt. Parvathamma.
South by : Property belonging to Prabhaiah.

Durgadevi & Associates
T. MANJUNATH, B.A. LL.B,
M. DURGA DEVI, B.A. LL.B,
ADVOCATES.
No. 297, 2nd Main, 2nd Block, Kanteeravanagar,
Nandini Layout, Bengaluru - 560 096.
Mobile: 9740441606, 9611565950
advocatetmanjunath@gmail.com
m.durgadevi11@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, BHUBANESWAR
No.PTI-HE-UE-MISC-0014-2025 28754/HE, dtd. 03/06/2025

Advertisement for appointment of Vice-Chancellor of State Public Universities of Odisha under Higher Education Department

Applications are invited from eligible applicants below **66** years as of 01.12.2025 (i.e. **born on or after 02.12.1959**) for the position of Vice- Chancellor in **13 Public Universities, of Odisha** as listed at Annexure- A, The applicant should be a distinguished academician of proven academic and administrative excellence and a well-rounded personality with a minimum of 10 years of experience as Professor in a University system or 10 years of experience in an equivalent position in reputed research and / or academic organization.

The post carries a fixed pay of Rs.2,10,000/- (Rupees two lakhs and ten thousand) with Special Allowance of Rs.11,250/- per month and other usual allowances such as Dearness Allowance. Provision of pay protection is applicable for candidates belonging to Central or State Government Public University or Institution. The tenure of the Vice-chancellor will be four years from the date he/she assumes office or till he/she attains 70 years of age; whichever is earlier.

Instructions for Submission of Application for the Post of Vice-Chancellor of Public Universities

Applicants are advised to strictly adhere to the following guidelines while submitting their applications:

1. **Application Format and Submission Platforms**
   * Applications must be submitted **physically in the prescribed format (and digitally in HIMS website of which details shared below)** available for download at the Department's website **www.dhe.odisha.gov.in** and the websites of the concerned universities.
   * Applicants are also required to fill out the required application digitally in the HIMS Portal available at : **hims.odisha.gov.in/Application-for-post-of-VC**.
   * The completed physical application form must be scanned and sent via **e-mail in PDF format only** to **hedsec.od@nic.in,** with the subject line: **'Application for the post of Vice-Chancellor of Public Universities."**
   * After the scanned copy is sent through email, applicants are required to send the hard copy of the application physically to the department at the following address with clear mention at the envelope -**"Application for the post of Vice-Chancellor of Public Universities."**

   Address:
   Office of Commissioner Cum Secretary, Higher Education Department, Lok Seva Bhawan, Sachivalaya Marg, Bhubaneswar-751001.
   * The e-mail submission must be accompanied by the physical submission through India Post Speed Post and digitally in the HIMS portal as stated above, failure of which will lead to rejection of the application.
2. **Application for Multiple Universities**
   * Applicants intending to apply for more than one university must submit **a single application** clearly indicating their **order of Preference**, with the most preferred university listed first.
   * This order of preference must also be clearly specified in the HIMS Module.
   * However, the candidates may be asked to appear for interviews for each such university separately for different Universities.
3. **Submission Deadline**
   * Both the **e-mailed application (PDF format)** and the **HIMS Module** must be submitted no later than **23:55 hours on 05.07.2025**.
   * **Failure to complete both submissions** (HIMS Module and email) by the specified deadline shall result in **rejection of the application**.
4. **Submission of Hard Copy**
   * In addition to the online submission, a **hard copy** of the same application (as e-mailed), **duly ink-signed** and accompanied by all supporting documents, must be sent by **SPEED POST (India Post) only and not through courier** to the undersigned. Any other mode of submission of application will be liable for rejection.
   * The hard copy should reach the Department's office **on or before 10.07.2025**. However, any **hard copy of the applications received after 15.07.2025** will be **rejected**, even if the same is posted before the deadline through email and HIMS Module.
5. **Other Conditions**
   * In case multiple applications are submitted by a candidate, only the **last valid submission** digitally submitted on HIMS portal (as per timestamp of the HIMS Module) will be considered. All previous submissions shall be rejected.
   * **Late applications** received after the aforementioned deadlines via email, HIMS Module, or Indian Post **will not be considered** under any circumstances.
6. **Interview Process**
   * Shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview before a **three-member Selection Committee**. The **venue and schedule** will be communicated in due course.

Sd/-
Commissioner-cum- Secretary to Government
Higher Education Department, Lok Seva Bhawan, Sachivalaya Marg
N **Bhubaneswar-751001. Ph.:- (0674) 2536862**

‘Don’t permit constructions around protected monuments sans ASI nod’

High Court says that disciplinary inquiry will be initiated if it is found that permissions have been granted contrary to law

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A file photo of construction works within the prohibited area of Rameshwara temple, an ASI-protected monument, at Kudli in Shivamogga taluk.

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the State government to issue circular to all local bodies not to grant permission for new constructions in and around protected monuments in the absence of no objection certificate (NoC) from the Archaeology Survey of India (ASI) as per the statutory requirements.

Also, the court directed the government to make it clear to the officials empowered to grant permission for construction of buildings that disciplinary inquiry would be initiated if it was found that such permissions were granted contrary to law.

Petition rejected

Justice M. Nagaprasanna issued the directions while rejecting a petition filed by Denis Crasta of Mangaluru, who had questioned the ASI’s notice issued in 2024 asking him to stop construction of a house.

The Mangaluru City Corporation (MCC) in December 2023 approved the petitioner’s plan for constructing a residential building on the landing owned by the petitioner. However, the ASI in May 2024 issued a notice to the petitioner asking him to stop construction as it was commenced sans obtaining a NoC from it as the petitioner’s land comes within 150 metres from the Mangaladevi temple in Mangaluru, which is declared as a protected monument under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeology Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

While the petitioner, citing Google Earth images, claimed that his land was situated 151.1 metres from the temple, the ASI after an inspection of the construction site pointed out that it was situated 64 metres from the prohibited area of the protected monument, and hence no new construction can be permitted on this land as per the provisions of the 1958 Act.

Interestingly, the government had told the court that permission granted for construction sans NoC from ASI was illegal while pointing out that the petitioner’s act of obtaining permission and putting up construction to a certain level is an act of “fraud played by the MCC in connivance with the petitioner.”

Indifference to rules

Observing that it is not understandable how the MCC granted permission without keeping the ASI in the loop, the court said the permission was granted in blithe ignorance or indifference to the statutory embargo.

Stating that officials of the MCC had wantonly ignored the mandate of the law permitting the construction, the court directed the government to initiate a disciplinary enquiry against the erring officials of the MCC as per law, and take appropriate action on identifying the role of each erring officials in grant of permission contrary to the law.

Courts must remain vigilant against weaponisation of criminal laws: Karnataka HC

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Courts must remain vigilant against the weaponisation of criminal law for settling civil disputes as the law, when misused, ceases to be a shield and becomes a sword, said the High Court of Karnataka while quashing a criminal case registered against a man by his business partner by invoking provisions of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, to settle a financial dispute.

“The complainant to take revenge or arm twist the petitioner for financial dispute, has made use of the criminal justice system. The subject complaint is a blade of vengeance, cloaked in the garb of law,” the court observed.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna made these observations while quashing the criminal proceedings against Vilas Bhormalji Oswal on a complaint lodged by his estranged business partner Somashekara.

Mr. Oswal and Mr. Somashekara were partners in Green Land Infra, a real estate development firm established in 2011, with the former being authorised signatory of the firm and the latter being the managing director. However, certain differences cropped up between them leading to closure of the business in 2016 resulting in unresolved disputes.

Plaint with DCRE

Meanwhile, Mr. Somashekara, who is a Scheduled Caste (SC), lodged a complaint with the Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement (DCRE) in April 2021 alleging that Mr. Oswal had made a casteist remark against him in December 2020.

However, the DCRE had not acted on the complaint for nearly three years.

Interestingly, the DCRE in February, 2024, recorded the statement of Mr. Somashekara and in March 2024 recorded the statements of two witnesses, known to Mr. Somashekara, who stated that they were present when Mr. Oswal allegedly abused the complainant. After recording the statements, the DCRE forwarded the complaint to the Jayanagar police in April 2024 for registering the criminal case.

The police, after investigation, filed the charge sheet against Mr. Oswal and a trial court took cognisance of offences against him in June, 2024.

However, the HC pointed out that the only allegation against Mr. Oswal in the complaint was that he told Mr. Somashekar at the playground, “do not show your casteist mindset” and there was no allegation that the petitioner abused Mr. Somashekar by taking the name of his caste or that the so-called abuse was made in front of two persons, who were treated as witnesses after four years.

My life and writing are the same: Banu

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ayesha Khanum, chairperson of Karnataka Media Academy, felicitating International Booker Prize winner Banu Mushtaq and writer-translator Deepa Bhasthi in Bengaluru on Wednesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

“My life is like an open book... There is nothing to hide. My life and writing are one and the same,” said International Booker Prize winner Banu Mushtaq.

Speaking during an interaction, organised by the Karnataka Media Academy at Press Club, Bengaluru, on Wednesday, she said that there are many prejudices in society about a woman from a Muslim family writing boldly.

“A few years ago, a police officer asked me whether to write ‘Miss’ or ‘Mrs’ before my name while sending an invitation. Also, at an event in Bengaluru, a member of the audience asked me to share my experience of being divorced. I confronted him, asking who told him that I was divorced. I have been happily married for 50 years.... All these issues will be incorporated in my autobiography,” she said.

Shedding light about the selection of her book *Heart Lamp* for the Booker Prize, she said: “This is the first time that a collection of short stories has been awarded the Booker Prize. *Heart Lamp* was third among the three works selected for the final round of the award.... The selection committee considered the impact the work had on people,” she explained.

“When I felt that I had no life without writing, I turned to journalism. Later, I became a writer and a lawyer. Writing should not have any linguistic boundaries. I had my education in a Kannada-medium school, and wrote in Kannada. For writers, content is important, not the language,” she said. One’s work can always be translated into other languages later, Ms. Mushtaq added.

Deepa Bhasthi, translator of *Heart Lamp*, said that while translating, she felt no compulsion to impress the Western readers. “Therefore, many words used in the original have been retained. English became better because of *Heart Lamp*,” she said.

Chairperson of the Karnataka Media Academy Ayesha Khanum, journalist Dinesh Amin Mattu, and others were present at the event.

793 victims of crimes wait for relief owing to lack of funding by govt.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Victims of crimes, including minor girls and female victims of sexual offences, have been waiting for compensation for the past two years.

Nearly 800 victims of crimes, including minor girls and female victims of sexual offences, have been waiting for compensation for the past two years, as the State government has failed to release adequate funds to the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), which has the statutory power to disburse the compensation to eligible victims. As per data of the KSLSA, about ₹30 crore is required to pay 793 victims of crime, who were found eligible to receive compensation as per provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

Of these 793 persons, 209 were found eligible for compensation during 2023-24 and 584 during 2024-25. As per the data, around ₹8 crore was required to pay for 209 victims and ₹22 crore was needed to pay 584 persons, based on the assessment of compensation to which the victims or their family members are entitled to.

As per the data, around 400 persons are likely to be added to the list of eligible victims for compensation in 2025-26, as there are about 890 cases before district legal services authorities that attract compensation when the cases are disposed of. The total amount required is around ₹40 to 45 crore, including around ₹30 crore required to clear those waiting for compensation since 2023.

The provisions of the CrPC and the BNSS vest a statutory duty on the State governments to release funds under the victims’ compensation scheme (VCS), and the High Court of Karnataka, in a PIL petition filed in 2017 by People’s Movement Against Sexual Assault, had directed the government to release funds to the KSLSA under VCS.

1,363 Agniveers complete training at Army Service Corps Centre (North)

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many as 1,363 Agniveers of the Indian Army completed their training and passed out successfully at a parade held at Army Service Corps Centre (North) in Bengaluru on Wednesday. They belonged to the fifth batch of Agniveers to undergo the training that commenced on November 1, 2024.

Lt. Gen. J.K. Gera, Commandant, ASC Centre & College, reviewed the parade. In his address, he urged the young soldiers to imbibe the ethos of *imandari*, *wafadari*, and *bahaduri* (integrity, loyalty, and courage).

The ceremony was attended by parents of the Agniveers and all the parents were honoured with the Gaurav Padak instituted by the Indian Army as a token of recognition of their gesture of encouraging their wards to join the Indian Army in service of the nation.

The Army Service Corps Centre (North) is a premier institute imparting training to mechanical transport drivers to support the Army Service Corps units for the whole of the Indian Army. The Agnipath scheme was introduced by the Union government on June 14, 2022 for the recruitment of soldiers into the three services of the Armed Forces.

TAMIL NADU POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LTD
Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)

Specification No.	Tender Inviting Authority	Name of the Work
538	SE/P&A/MTPS	Cast Basalt lined M S pipes 406 mm OD with standard length of 6 m with Single end flanged end

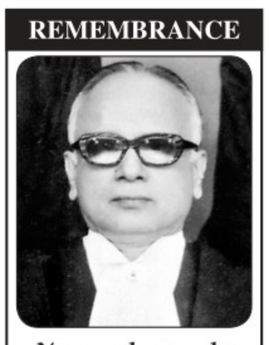
For details of Works / Procurement / Due date of submission / opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites: **www.tnpdcl.org, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in**
DIPR/2834/Tender/2025

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

REMEMBRANCE



Your values rule our lives

Justice T. C. RAGHAVAN
Dr.Chempakam Raghavan
Indira-Mohandas
Renuka-Viswanathan
Vatsala-Michael
Urmila-Subba
Devika-Rajan
Raghunandan-Aditi

IN MEMORIAM

You may be gone, but your impact on our lives remains forever and ever...
Latha ORCHARDS
Eight years have passed, yet your smile still lingers.
We celebrate the beautiful life you lived.
In the Garden’s bloom and the Orchard’s hush,
as blossoms grace the earth,
your memory drifts on every fragrant breeze.
.....a treasure beyond time,
we hold you in our hearts.
SPINCO
BRINGING TECHNOLOGY, ENABLING SCIENCE.
Thyagarajan
Arvind I Vandana I Janani
Avantika I Rinav
Management Team & Staff
SPINCO GROUP OF COMPANIES
Latha Thyagarajan
Nov. 18, 1952 - Jun. 05, 2017

Police charge businessman in 'obscene remarks' case

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Ernakulam Central Police in Kerala have filed a chargesheet against businessman Boby Chemmanur alleging that he had made sexually loaded comments about a woman actor on social media and also personally while attending an inaugural function.

The chargesheet, filed before the Ernakulam Magistrate Court, stated that the remarks were made with an intention to humiliate the actor. The police collected evidence to confirm that he had made offensive remarks about various individuals on social media. The chargesheet included video clips from interviews and the statement given by the actor.

Non-bailable charges

He was booked under non-bailable charges, including Section 75(4) (making sexually coloured remarks as a form of sexual harassment) under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 67 (publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form) of the IT Act.

It was the second case to be registered by the police based on two complaints by the actor.

She had earlier lodged a complaint against 30 persons for allegedly making sexually loaded comments beneath her social media post. A special investigation team (SIT) had arrested Mr. Chemmanur on January 8.

Madurai Bench of Madras High Court orders closure of Tasmac outlet in Dindigul

It is paradoxical for a welfare government to establish hospitals and open Tasmac outlets at the same time, the Bench observed

The Hindu Bureau
MADURAI

A view of Madurai Bench of Madras High Court. R. ASHOK

It is a paradox for a welfare government to establish more hospitals on the one hand and, simultaneously, set up Tasmac liquor outlets. This is not in consonance with the Constitutional ethos, observed the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, while directing the closure of a Tasmac outlet in Dindigul.

A Division Bench of Justices S.M. Subramaniam and A.D. Maria Clete said that when Right to Health is a fundamental right, the State must ensure that the prohibition is slowly implemented in a phased manner to reduce harm to public health.

The court was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) petition filed by K. Kannan of Dindigul.

The petitioner sought a direction to the authorities concerned to close a Tasmac outlet on Tiruchi Road in Dindigul. He said the road was used by schoolchildren. The children and other road users were finding it difficult to use the road freely and peacefully, he said.

'Claim incorrect'

In the counter affidavit, the Dindigul District Tasmac Manager submitted that the claim the liquor outlet was located close to a school and other institutions was incorrect.

The outlet was located within the Corporation limits, where the prohibited distance was 50 metres, as per Rule 8 of the Tamil Nadu Liquor Retail Vending (in Shops and Bars) Rules, 2003.

Since the Tasmac outlet was situated in a commercial area, the proviso to Rule 8 of the Rules states that the distance restriction shall not apply. The court said that it was of the view that mere guidelines and rules fixing certain distances cannot be the sole criterion. In this case, the road was used by children to reach the school and it served as a direct pathway.

Regulatory thresholds

The judges said that the rules setting minimum distances were regulatory thresholds, but they do not exhaust all the public health and welfare concerns. Mere compliance with the distance rule does not validate a location if the broader environment is harmful. Undoubtedly, a Tasmac outlet may cause nuisance to the road users within the locality, particularly to children.

It is the duty of the State to ensure that no such nuisance is caused to the citizens and road users.

Closure of one Tasmac outlet would not cause any prejudice but would rather benefit the public at large, the court observed, and directed the authorities concerned to close the Tasmac shop within two weeks.

The judges posted the matter for reporting compliance on June 18.

Probe on into Hyderabad hospital 'food poisoning'

Siddharth Kumar Singh
HYDERABAD

Two days after a suspected food poisoning outbreak at the Institute of Mental Health (IMH), Erragadda, the Telangana Health Department has relieved Dr. D. Padmaja, Deputy Civil Surgeon and Resident Medical Officer (RMO) at IMH, from her duties as in-charge RMO with immediate effect.

The likely food poisoning was linked to sweets distributed to patients on the occasion of Telangana Formation Day on Monday. This caps a flurry of developments, including suspension of contract of the current food supplier.

The ward of the hospital where sweets were distributed saw a sudden surge in complaints of nausea, vomiting, and uneasiness shortly after 6 p.m. on June 2. A person identified as Karan, 30, died on the morning of Tuesday.

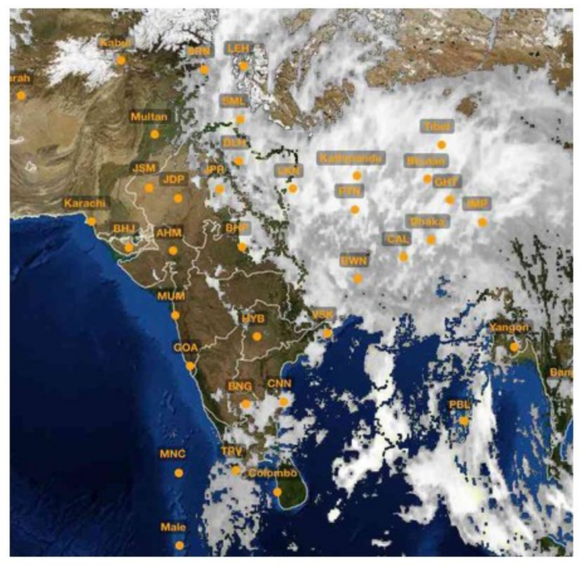
A senior official added that a police complaint was filed and an investigation was under way.

Health Minister C. Damodar Raja Narasimha, who arrived at IMH to take stock of the situation, told reporters that preliminary findings suggest the sweets distributed on the occasion could be the cause.

"Initial reports indicate that the water supply is largely safe. There is a strong possibility that this was a case of food poisoning due to the sweets. We have terminated the diet contractor's services," the Health Minister said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura. Thunderstorm with lightning & gusty winds likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa and Karnataka

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	12	29.2	25.4	Kozhikode	14	32.3	23.9
Ahmedabad	—	37.5	25.7	Kurnool	—	37.6	26.2
Aizawl	2	24.5	21.0	Lucknow	—	37.4	23.6
Allahabad	2	39.2	25.0	Madurai	—	38.5	26.1
Bengaluru	—	31.1	20.9	Mangaluru	7	31.5	23.8
Bhopal	—	33.0	23.4	Mumbai	27	30.0	24.2
Bhubaneswar	57	38.8	24.0	Mysuru	—	31.0	20.2
Chandigarh	1.7	34.5	21.7	New Delhi	—	34.6	24.7
Chennai	—	38.1	27.2	Patna	—	33.5	27.8
Coimbatore	—	33.0	23.6	Port Blair	10	32.3	26.6
Dehradun	25.9	27.7	17.3	Puducherry	—	37.2	25.0
Gangtok	10	19.2	15.7	Pune	—	30.0	24.6
Goa	46	32.0	25.4	Raipur	—	37.5	27.0
Guwahati	—	28.1	25.0	Ranchi	10	32.9	23.2
Hubballi	—	32.0	21.0	Shillong	—	22.4	17.4
Hyderabad	—	35.6	25.2	Shimla	40	20.2	9.2
Imphal	3.8	29.8	22.1	Srinagar	0.8	23.5	12.8
Jaipur	3	31.6	22.0	Thiruvananthapuram	8	30.3	24.6
Kochi	26	29.0	23.4	Tiruchi	—	38.1	27.0
Kohima	—	23.0	16.9	Vijayawada	0.4	39.4	27.9
Kolkata	57	33.6	23.3	Visakhapatnam	—	35.0	29.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.18	..74	.12	...201	...106	
Bengaluru	...9	..42	.62	.....—	92	
Chennai	...8	..16	.50	75	66	
Delhi	..—	..19	.44	...285	...222	
Hyderabad	..—	..16	.38	...105	93	
Kolkata	...8	106	114	58	58	
Lucknow	.11	..38	.55	...124	...126	
Mumbai	.49	..17	.50	32	...115	
Pune	..—	..68	.81	43	90	
Visakhapatnam	.19	..71	.31	64	...122	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Bikaner, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 289 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala recorded a healthy AQI score of 26

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

INBRIEF

MLC Kavitha leads dharna opposing notices to KCR

Telangana Jagruthi, led by MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha, staged a Maha Dharna at Dharna Chowk, Indira Park in Hyderabad on Wednesday against the Justice PC Ghosh Commission of Inquiry's notices to former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao. She alleged that the notices were part of a political vendetta targeting KCR. Ms. Kavitha emphasized the magnitude of the Kaleshwaram project, highlighting its extensive infrastructure and pivotal role in providing water to parched lands. She accused the Congress government of conspiring against the project.

JSP marks one year in office; YSRCP observes 'Betrayal Day'

Celebrations organised by the ruling Jana Sena Party (JSP), marking the completion of one year of the NDA government in office, and protest rallies, abuzz with anti-government slogans by the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), raised the political heat in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday. The city thoroughfares were torn between bursting of firecrackers by the JSP cadre and the protest rallies taken out by the YSRCP as part of the 'Vennupotu Dinam'. The YSRCP also alleged that the NDA government was borrowing crores of rupees, but not using it for welfare schemes.

Villagers stage protest against ethanol plant in Telangana

High drama unfolded in Pedda Dhanwada village in Jogulamba Gadwal district on Wednesday after villagers staged a protest against the setting up of an ethanol plant. The situation took a turn when demonstrators stormed the worksite, damaging tents and smashing the windscreens of earth movers. Sources from local police said the ethanol unit, categorised as a renewable energy project, does not require Gram Sabha consent under existing norms. The villagers claimed that the plant will harm their crops .

Nilambur bypoll: war of words between LDF, UDF leaders over welfare pension payments

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Left Democratic Front campaign in the Nilambur Assembly byelection is hoping to put the United Democratic Front in the dock by accusing the Congress-led Opposition alliance in Kerala of denigrating the distribution of social welfare pensions as "ballot-eve buy-offs" and "political clientelism".

LDF candidate M. Swaraj on Wednesday alleged that Congress general secretary K.C. Venugopal had demeaned 62 lakh social welfare pension recipients in the State by insinuating that their political convictions were purchasable. The payees were predominantly senior citizens, widows, unmarried women over 50, agricultural labourers, and persons with disabilities. The State's welfare pension was their right, not charity or an inducement to garner votes, he said. "Mr. Venugopal should apologise or amend his statement if he did not mean it," he added.

Mr. Venugopal clarified that his remarks about welfare pension disbursement were aimed at showing how much delayed it was and that arrears were partially cleared usually close to elections.

"I had not belittled social welfare pension beneficiaries. Instead, I pointed out that the LDF cruelly withheld the monthly pension payments and released the funds only when it was electorally expedient for the ruling front," Mr. Venugopal, who is also Alappuzha MP, told reporters in New Delhi.

LDF candidate M. Swaraj submitting his nomination to tahsildar M.P. Sindhu in Nilambur. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"Last year, two out of seven months' arrears were paid just before the Lok Sabha polls. This year, one month's arrears being paid just before the bypoll," he added.

'No huge arrears'

Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal, however, refuted the allegation and said that there were no huge arrears in pension disbursement.

What Mr. Venugopal said was "wrong" and he should not try to justify it now. Such statements which "insult voters" should not be made "even for political gains".

The recent disbursement of pension arrears was announced much before the byelection was notified. Mr. Venugopal's remarks and his subsequent attempt to justify the same will turn the people of Kerala against the Congress party, the Minister added.

Leader of the Opposition V. D. Satheesan and senior Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala said that the LDF government had undermined the sanctity of welfare payments by brazenly exploiting them as a political tool at the expense of the beneficiaries.

General Education Minister V. Sivankutty wrote on social media platform Facebook that Mr. Venugopal has sneered at ordinary people who depend on pensions.

"Congress leaders should stop ridiculing common folk at the hustings," he said.

Family seeks CBI probe to trace missing Kerala youth

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The family of Adam Jo Antony, a 19-year-old youngster from Palluruthy, has moved the Kerala High Court demanding a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into his mysterious disappearance after the Kerala Police failed to make a breakthrough in the case almost a year after.

Adam went missing on July 28, 2024.Thereafter, he was untraceable.

"Our demand for a CBI probe is not out of our dissatisfaction over the police probe. But it is now 312 days since he went missing, and there is no hint of where he is or what happened to him," said K.J. Antony, Adam's father.

Expedition to study ecological impact of Kochi shipwreck

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Fishery Oceanographic Research Vessel (FORV) *Sagar Sampada*, operated by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute here, will carry out an expedition to investigate the potential ecological and biogeochemical impacts caused by the Liberian-flagged *MSC ELSA 3* that sank off the Kochi coast on May 24.

A team of scientists at the CMFRI will collect samples from 16 research stations spaced 10 nautical miles apart, providing a zonal coverage of the region surrounding the shipwreck sunken vessel.

Cast away: A container from the sunken ship that washed ashore at Tharayilkadavu in Alappuzha. SURESH ALLEPPEY

During the 10-day voyage, scientists will monitor the biodiversity, biogeochemical parameters, regional hydrography, as well as ocean currents using advanced instruments. Sediment sample will be collected to access the impact on seabed communities. High-end acoustic systems and big eye camera will help identify the changes in marine life.

NH 66 works to be completed by end of 2025, says Gadkari

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala CM also sought to exempt the money spent for the land acquisition from the borrowing limit of the State

The construction on the National Highway 66 would be completed by December 2025 as per schedule, said Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari. The assurance was given to Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan during a meeting held in New Delhi on Wednesday.

Mr. Vijayan also sought to exempt the money spent by Kerala for the land acquisition of highway projects in the State from the borrowing limit of Kerala.

However, no assurance was given to the State in this regard, as the Union Minister made it clear that the issue was not within his limits, and an intervention of the Prime Minister was necessary for such demands.

Mr. Vijayan said in a social media post that the meeting with the Union Minister was productive. The meeting also reviewed the progress of ongoing NH projects in Kerala, he said while thanking his continued support.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Public Works Department Minister P.A. Mohamed Riyas said the work on the NH stretch from Kasaragod to Thiruvananthapuram would be completed in December 2025, and the new NH would be a New Year gift for the Keralites.

The assurance for constructing a 360-metre viaduct to replace the collapsed stretch of NH 66 at Kooriyad, near Tirurangadi, in Malappuram was received in the meeting.

Falling short

India must ensure technology transfer in the EV segment

On June 2, India took a turn for the better in its transport electrification journey by offering a concessional import duty of 15% on completely built-up units. This is contingent on the EV manufacturer investing a minimum of about ₹4,150 crore over three years to localise manufacturing in India, with a base domestic value add of 25% in three years, going up to 50% in another two years. The notification, under the Scheme to Promote Manufacturing of Electric Passenger Cars in India (SPMEPCI) announced in March 2024, allows for a maximum import of 8,000 completely built units annually for each manufacturer for five years. The SPMEPCI adds to the bouquet of policies that attempts to boost EV adoption and manufacturing. However, these policies put together fall short of addressing a pressing issue in India's journey to decarbonise and transform mobility – technology transfer. India began this journey in 2015, about five years later than most large economies. An outlay of ₹895 crore for the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India (FAME) scheme, for five years, expanded to ₹10,000 crore in 2019. China announced its ambitious New Energy Vehicle subsidy programme in 2009, which, coupled with mandatory joint venture manufacturing of EVs until 2022, enabled technology transfer. In addition, a reduced import duty on EVs (25% in 2010 to 15% in 2018), and cumulative incentives of about $230 billion in the past 15 years – the most by any country – enabled China to achieve the highest global EV adoption rate. This also supported rapid charging infrastructure deployment, making China the largest producer and consumer of EVs.

The U.S. began this journey in 2010 with an initial outlay of $25 billion for its Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loans Program. This was greatly expanded under the Biden administration's Inflation Reduction Act. But its EV adoption rate is much lower than China's. In 2024, out of 17 million global EV car sales, China alone accounted for 11.3 million, followed by Europe with 3.2 million, the U.S. with another 1.5 million, and the rest of the world accounting for the remainder. China's vertical integration of battery manufacturing, from mining, processing to assembling, has aided economies of scale with competitive pricing of EVs against conventional ICE vehicles. For now, the 25% DVA that India could aim for under the just announced scheme would be repurposing locally made auto components meant for ICE vehicles to EVs and layering it with Software-as-a-service. But to obtain the crucial technology for the heart of the EV – its battery – India must replicate its approach to localising ICE manufacturing, which is to mandate joint ventures with local ICE or EV makers, and gradually allow for a complete open market.

At long last

In IPL win, RCB finally laid old ghosts and recent memes to rest

Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) played the Indian Premier League's (IPL) inaugural game on April 18, 2008. It was a night that, however, belonged to rival Kolkata Knight Riders with Brendon McCullum's unbeaten 158 putting the match well beyond the host in its backyard at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium. In the subsequent editions, the franchise with a fiercely loyal fan base, promised much, delivered little and had three runner-up finishes to show. Finally, the ghosts of the past were laid to rest when Rajat Patidar's men claimed the title with a six-run victory over Punjab Kings in the summit clash at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium on Tuesday night. RCB's triumph in the IPL's 18th edition was also a tribute to Virat Kohli's longevity. He has been with the squad since its first game in 2008. In a unit that featured stars such as Rahul Dravid, AB de Villiers, Chris Gayle and Ross Taylor in the past, Kohli has been the forever spine. The young lad has grown into a patriarch, and he has achieved enough and more with the Indian team, both as player and captain, but a missing IPL trophy, always rankled him. Finally that aberration has been corrected and there was no mistaking the relief and joy that coursed through him on a surreal June night.

Patidar's assurance, Kohli's experience, spinner Krunal Pandya's choking spells, and Josh Hazlewood's sharp pace, all combined well while many others dished out cameos to keep RCB in the hunt through the latest IPL. Even if the cup proved elusive, Punjab Kings did remarkably well, especially its captain Shreyas Iyer; he will have a larger role with the Indian ODI team whenever Rohit Sharma and Kohli bid adieu to that format. Among the rest, Mumbai Indians, after a lukewarm start, surged back and found a berth in the play-offs, one that also featured Gujarat Titans. If the IPL was all about RCB's redemption song and Punjab Kings' chutzpah, equally, it mirrored the decline of a pedigreed outfit, the Chennai Super Kings (CSK), which finished last. An ageing M.S. Dhoni could not stem the rot and former champion CSK will have to rebuild afresh in the coming editions. Having commenced on March 22, the IPL stretched interminably and a break caused by the Pahalgam terror attack and the resultant Operation Sindoor, forced a change in schedule. The IPL also highlighted talented players such as young Vaibhav Suryavanshi and Sai Sudharsan. As a sporting brand, the league is formidable but, as Kohli said, Tests are five levels above in quality and, hopefully, modern players will respect this reality.

Exposomics for better environmental health

Dr. Kalpana Balakrishnan
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The focus for World Environment Day in 2025 (June 5) is on ending plastic pollution. Micro-plastics represent one of the many thousands of chemical, physical and biological hazards that lurk in the air, water and living spaces for which we have neither the sensory capabilities nor sensing technologies to measure exposure and assess health risks. Thus, reducing the environmental disease burden continues to be a daunting challenge for public health.

In India, rapid economic growth is increasing the scale and the complexity of environmental exposures and the interdependencies between the living environment and lifestyles. With India already accounting for nearly 25% of the global environmental disease burden, there is a need to develop newer paradigms for environmental management that rest on integrated health risk assessments.

These must include all environmental factors into the study of disease development. The piece-meal approaches that define our current framing on environment or health indicators are likely to exaggerate environmental health inequities and result in spiralling health costs. We must embrace new and cutting-edge scientific developments in the field of "exposomics" to gain a more complete picture of disease etiologies over the life course and develop holistic prevention strategies. Strategic investments in long-term environmental health surveillance that integrate novel environmental and biomonitoring efforts with digital health and data science platforms are critical.

Environmental disease burden

The World Health Organization (WHO) began estimating the environmental disease burden in 2000, which is the basis for the modern estimation approach being adopted in the Global Burden of Disease, Injuries, and Risk Factor (GBD) study. Each cycle of the GBD identifies risk factors with the greatest attributable health burden. In the latest cycle (2021) that included 88 risk factors, environmental and occupational (OEH) risk factors in the GBD were responsible for 18.9% (12.8 million) of global deaths and 14.4% of all disability-adjusted life years (DALYs), led by ambient $PM_{2.5}$ air pollution (4.2% DALYs, 4.7 million deaths) and household air pollution from the use of solid fuels for cooking (3.9% DALYs, 3.1 million deaths).

In India, nearly three million deaths and 100 million deaths are attributable to occupational and environmental health (OEH) risks. OEH risk factors in India are also estimated to account for more than 50% of the attributable burden for non-communicable diseases including ischemic heart disease, stroke, chronic obstructive lung disease, lung cancer, asthma and, more recently, diabetes and chronic kidney disease. Risk factors such as lead exposures can have grave developmental health impacts for children under five, with India accounting for up to 154 million or 20% of the total estimated IQ points lost globally in children under five.

What are we missing? The GBD results provide a strong and robust body of evidence to initiate actions for cleaner air, safer water and better sanitation. However, the current environmental burden of disease addresses only a limited number (around 11) of categories of environmental risk factors as there is a paucity of human exposure data. Several environmental risk factors that can contribute to significant health burdens are currently not included in the GBD. These include various chemical exposures, risks from complex mixtures such as micro-plastics and solid waste and physical hazards such as environmental noise.

More importantly, environmental risk factors interact in complex ways with metabolic (high blood pressure or high fasting plasma glucose) and behavioural risk factors (smoking and unhealthy diets) as well as underlying genetic susceptibility and upstream health determinants (such as socio-economic status) to produce a health impact within populations. Risk estimates are often derived for single risk factors; while confounding is often well adjusted in long-term cohort studies, complex mixtures and interactions over a life course have not been adequately explored.

Finally, climate change can magnify hazards posed by multiple environmental risk factors, such as heat, air pollution, vector-borne diseases, storms and flooding, and wildfires. Climate change may reduce crop yields, reduce agricultural worker productivity, disrupt food security and affect food supply chains. Depression, anxiety and other mental health outcomes, driven by both ecological concerns and direct health impacts of climate-sensitive environmental risk factors such as fine particulate matter, are also important to consider. Several of these risk factors can occur together, resulting in compound events and synergistic effects. These hazards can further amplify health impacts among populations with inadequate access to health systems or healthy food systems. Methods and data are not yet available to support inclusion of these important risk factors in the global burden of disease assessments.

Thus, the current environmental burden of disease estimates are not only a conservative underestimates but also do not provide an adequate means of prioritising against competing risk factors to develop holistic, scalable preventive health strategies.

> Scientific developments in the field of exposomics will also help get a better picture of disease etiologies and craft holistic prevention strategies

The human exposome

The global human genome project (1990-2003) revolutionised our ability to explore the genetic origins of disease. However, it also revealed the limited predictive power of individual genetic variation for many common diseases. Genetic factors for example, contribute to less than half of the risk of heart disease, which is a leading source of mortality.

The success in mapping the human genome has fostered the complementary concept of the "exposome". The exposome is defined as the measure of all the exposures of an individual in a lifetime and how those exposures relate to health. Traditional environmental health studies include hypothesis-driven methods which have focused on one or a class of environmental exposures at a few time points. These fail to account for the complex interactions of exposures across the lifespan, on human health.

Exposomics aims to bridge this gap by understanding how external exposures from physical, chemical, biological and psycho-social environments interact with diet and lifestyle and internal individual characteristics such as genetics, physiology, and epigenetics to create health or disease. This would allow the generation of an atlas of exposure wide associations (EWAS) to complement genome-wide associations (GWAS) and enable discovery-based analysis of environmental influences on health. The exposome requires synchronisation of several inter-disciplinary technologies which include real time sensor based personal exposure monitoring with wearables; untargeted chemical analyses on human biomonitoring samples; testing on human-relevant micro-physiological systems (also known as organs-on-a-chip) wherein in vitro models replicate the structure and function of human organs or tissues to understand the mechanistic basis of biological response; and big data, and artificial intelligence (AI) to mine data and generate integrated pieces of evidence.

Given that capacities and resources to generate exposomics data are not widely available, an immediate need for the exposomic framework to become a reality is also the creation of a data ecosystem in which harmonised data can be found, accessed, and shared through sustained and interoperable data repositories.

Mainstream environment within health

Exposome frameworks may seem implausible or irrelevant in India where the implementation of environmental health management programmes faces numerous hurdles. But, leapfrogging to technology and data-driven approaches is not new to the health sector. Exposomics offers unprecedented potential to mainstream environmental risks within public health programmes by generating more accurate predictive models for many chronic diseases while also enabling precision medicine. Unbridled investments in capacity building and synchronising available analytical, environmental and public health infrastructure offer the promise of addressing the concerns of our populations with unprecedented cost-effectiveness. The time is ripe for the Indian environmental health community to engage and contribute to the global momentum on the science of exposomics.

Future celebrations of World Environment Day may soon focus on why the human exposome project can be the best prescription for holistic prevention efforts that preserve and promote health equity.

Aiming for an era of 'biohappiness' in India

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Recently, on a trip to Arunachal Pradesh, we were amazed by the diversity of greens in the diet – all freshly plucked from the forest and fields. Similarly, across rural and tribal areas of our country, one can find many varieties of millets, beans, legumes, tubers, wild fruits and green leafy vegetables, which the urban Indian is hardly aware of. The Nyishi and Apatani tribal communities in the State are knowledgeable about the nutritional and medicinal properties of many of these local plants.

A senior government official however warned of the rapid rate at which agrobiodiversity was disappearing in northeast India, mirroring the global rise in the rate of species extinction. Traditional knowledge about the medicinal and nutritional properties of these foods, as well as the culinary practices of tribal communities are probably going extinct at the same pace.

India's biodiversity

India covers about 2% of global land area, but harbours nearly 8% of global biodiversity. It is ranked as one of 17 'megadiverse' countries of the world; contains sections of four of the 36 global biodiversity 'hotspots;' and is one of just eight centres of global food-crop diversity. Natural services from India's diverse forests are valued at over ₹130 trillion a year, and local ecosystem services sustain livelihoods of a vast majority of the rural population.

However, continuous decline in our natural assets reduces India's GDP and hinders sustainable development. Yet, biodiversity and its potential to increase human well-being remain largely unexplored.

Global food systems are dominated by three crops – rice, wheat, and maize – which provide over 50% of the world's plant-based calories. This concentration and loss of biodiversity comes at a heavy price, causing nutritional imbalances, and vulnerability to climate shocks.

Non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and obesity are rising globally, and despite technological advances in agriculture that have enabled unprecedented gains in productivity, the benefits have not been equitably distributed, as the resilience of our food systems comes under threat.

For long we have ignored locally grown crops such as small millets, buckwheat, amaranth, jackfruit, yams and tubers, and indigenous legumes that remain classified as Neglected and Underutilized Species (NUS) in favour of popular commercial crops. The NUS, also known as orphan crops, are now being referred to as opportunity crops because they are nutritionally dense, climate-resilient, and adapted to local environments.

Crops and communities

Orphan (or Opportunity) crops have always been embedded in local culinary traditions, often linked with cultural identity and ecological knowledge. The community of Kolli hills (Eastern Ghats of Tamil Nadu) preferred growing locally adapted millets. Over three decades, farmers have moved to cultivating cash crops such as cassava, coffee, and pepper, resulting in a decline of agrobiodiversity. The M.S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) has been working with agricultural communities here for over 20 years, to prevent the erosion of millet crop diversity in the region through participatory research and empowering farmers' groups. These interventions have enabled a community of farmers, especially women, to document traditional knowledge and best practices, while improving the vitality of the soil, diversifying crop production, improving local processing and value addition, leading to increasing income.

India's action plan under the UN-declared International Year of Millets and Shree Anna Yojana was focused on strategies to enhance production and productivity, consumption, export, strengthening value chains, branding, creating awareness for health benefits and more. Many States have their own Millet Missions. In the Koraput district of Odisha, we have worked closely with the Odisha Millet Mission in supporting community-led millet revival from seed to consumption. While the focus nationally has been on ragi, jowar and bajra, the next step should be to expand the State missions to cover a variety of minor millets and to include them in the Public Distribution System.

> Sustainable use of natural resources — which includes bringing forgotten foods back to the table — will lead to better well-being

More than five decades ago, Professor M.S. Swaminathan envisioned an Evergreen Revolution – that is rooted not in chemical intensification but in restoring ecological balance and nutrition security. The future of food is diverse and nutritious. To bring these forgotten foods back to the table is also to put our cultural identity and ecological knowledge at the forefront of the climate crisis – for people, planet, and its posterity.

An interdisciplinary science

Today, a new biodiversity science is emerging across the globe, which India can leverage, given its human resources and scientific infrastructure. Furthermore, this interdisciplinary science will help us meet our most pressing challenges in sustainable use of India's unique biodiversity, for agriculture and food production, health and nutrition, climate change and disaster risk management, bio-economy, and providing a variety of jobs to meet the needs of 1.4 billion people.

India could become a global leader in conservation and sustainable use of natural resources leading to better health and human well-being. Could we aim for an era of "Biohappiness", as presciently envisioned by M.S. Swaminathan?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Perseverance pays

The Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) long-awaited IPL triumph is more than just a cricketing victory. It is a compelling story of perseverance, belief, and resilience. For over a decade-and-a-half, RCB bore the weight of expectations, often ending its campaigns with heartbreaks and near-misses. Yet, instead of caving in under criticism or doubt, the team continued to fight. Its journey is a reminder that true success often takes time, and it comes to those who keep showing up.

In a world obsessed with instant results, RCB's victory teaches us the value of patience, commitment, and the power of collective effort. The emotional outpouring from fans also reflects how sports can unite people, offering them hope and shared joy, especially during these testing times. May this win inspire everyone fighting a battle of persistence. A prayer for the fans after the unfortunate incident.

Pavithra M.,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

BESS in India's clean energy transition

Saurabh Kumar
Vice president, India, Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet

Harsh Shah
CEO & Executive Director, IndiGrid

The climate crisis has changed the idea of energy security. A country's energy sources must stand firm on four planks: availability, accessibility, affordability, and environmental acceptability. Environmental acceptability focuses on the trade-offs policymakers and the public are willing to make in terms of pollution, biodiversity loss, and greenhouse gas emissions. In this context, renewables have strengthened their position as an energy source that provides affordable power with lower emissions. They are important for the fulfillment of Sustainable Development Goal 7, which focuses on access to clean energy.

The case for integrating green energy into power systems is further strengthened by looming climate risks and geopolitical tensions. However, increasing renewable energy capacity may not have the desired results due to the intermittent nature of the resource. Energy storage technologies, such as Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), offer a crucial solution to mitigate the variability of renewable energy while enhancing grid stability.

Why energy storage matters

With the potential to enhance grid operations, enable large-scale integration of renewables, and provide reliable power, energy storage systems are critical to the energy transition. Among the technologies available, BESS stands out for its affordability, scalability, rapid deployment, and geographical flexibility.

By stabilising the grid, balancing demand-supply fluctuations, and enabling peak load management, BESS plays a foundational role across all forms of energy storage. Integrating BESS into the grid with renewables can considerably reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the power sector. Further, its ability to support decentralised energy solutions and microgrids ensures renewable energy reaches where it is needed most, making BESS a key enabler of a cleaner, more resilient, and equitable energy ecosystem.

Declining costs and technological advancements lead to the accelerating expansion of BESS. Over the past 15 years, the average cost of batteries has fallen by nearly 90%. However, despite this progress, utilisation of its full potential is impeded by regulatory, technical, financial, and market barriers.

India's BESS Landscape

Emerging economies such as India can lead by example in BESS deployment through a combination of financing and policy measures. India has set a target of 500 GW of installed power capacity from non-conventional fuels by 2030. As of January 2025, the country had already achieved 217.62 GW. To achieve full results, BESS deployment must be accelerated.

In this regard, the government has committed to installing 47 GW of BESS by 2032 to enable increased renewable deployment and its integration with the grid. Schemes such as Viability Gap Funding and waiver of interstate transmission system charges for BESS projects commissioned by June 2025 have been enacted to support BESS projects.

But progress has been slow. In the Economic Survey 2024-25, the Indian government highlighted the challenges associated with scaling up renewable energy and energy storage deployment – including the lack of investment for grid upgradation, speed of BESS deployment by large customers, access to critical minerals needed for indigenisation of storage technology, and delays in large-scale BESS agreements. The survey called for focusing on innovation and investment for resolving challenges in procuring battery storage, grid infrastructure, and critical minerals.

Innovative partnerships can help scale up BESS deployment. Using an alliance of public, private, and philanthropic entities can provide concessional funding and technical assistance for BESS.

Following the idea of leveraging collaboration to bring results, the BESS pilot project was initiated in Delhi by BSES Rajdhani Private Limited in partnership with IndiGrid Infrastructure Trust and Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP). The project marks a significant step forward toward India's goal of 47 GW of energy storage by 2030, creating a technical playbook for BESS adoption, supporting regulatory reforms, and incentivising future BESS projects.

Facilitating more such initiatives will be key to increasing BESS deployment in India, fulfilling SDG 7 commitments, enhancing energy security, and improving grid stability.

Emerging as a leader

India has been emerging as a leader in renewable energy deployment. The reasons for increasing renewables in the energy supply are to reduce emissions and create independence from imports of conventional fuels. However, the full potential of renewable energy cannot be achieved without energy storage. To become energy secure, India must complement its renewable energy capacity with BESS.

With partnerships, expeditious large-scale BESS projects for central and State grids, concessional financing, technological aid, manufacturing localisation, and recycling opportunities, India can utilise BESS to its fullest extent. This can make India a leader among emerging economies in terms of BESS projects.

As a member of the BESS consortium, founded by GEAPP, India has been focusing on deploying energy storage to ensure any increase in renewable energy power capacity can be utilised to its full potential. With more alliances, India can emerge as an energy-secure nation with flexible grids and increased renewable deployment.

Empowering women in green business

Women-led green businesses are key to unlocking India's sustainable future

Gunjan Jhunjhunwala
Programme Lead at the CEEW. Views are personal

Union Minister Piyush Goyal's recent call for greater innovation among Indian start-ups highlights an important challenge – and opportunity – that often gets overlooked: the need to support green innovation and increase the number of women-led green businesses in a world with an increasingly erratic climate.

Green enterprises are rapidly becoming an economic force. A study by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) shows that Odisha's green economy alone has a market potential of $23 billion. Imagine scaling that across India, not only in renewable energy but also in sectors such as circular economy, bio-packaging, engineered bamboo, e-waste recycling, and battery manufacturing. Yet, women currently lead just 18% of all start-ups in 2024, limiting the pace and scale at which India can realise this green potential. On this Environment Day, it is critical to recognise that empowering more women entrepreneurs in the green economy is not only a matter of equity but also essential for building a sustainable and prosperous India by 2047.

What needs to be done

First, finance needs to be unbiased. All start-ups need to solve the wicked problem of raising funds, but it is a tad bit tougher when the green technology is new and you are a woman. For Rashi Gupta, the founder of Vision Mechatronics, which operates in lithium-ion batteries, finance had been a bottleneck since 2015. "Banks would ask who is the man behind the scenes. But now I see more women in climate tech," she said. While the situation has improved, financiers still perceive higher risks when investing in women. If a woman-owned business has a male co-founder, her ability to access credit significantly improves. This, despite global evidence that women make better borrowers.

A 2014 Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation report revealed that 79% of women entrepreneurs in India were self-financed, with only 1.1% borrowing from financial institutions. The government recognises this gap. The 2025 Budget announcement of term loans of up to ₹2 crore to first-time SC and ST women entrepreneurs sets a good precedent in its willingness to offer credit upwards of a crore. More schemes that offer credit or term loans upwards of ₹1 crore are needed.

Mahi Singh, the Jaipur-based co-founder of Cancrie that converts waste into advanced nano-material for battery efficiency, revealed that there is a need to demystify and simplify access to these schemes for women to consider the government as a lender. Enabling end-to-end online access is one way. For private lending, boards of banks and investment firms can earmark a percentage of their portfolio towards green innovations and must include reporting on the percentage of credit offered to women-run green businesses in their annual reviews.

Second, women in green businesses need better-quality mentorship tailored to their specific challenges. 'Who do we look at as role models,' asks Vanita Prasad of Revy Environmental Solutions. Women entrepreneurs highlighted initiatives such as the BRICS bootcamp, the Women Entrepreneurship Platform initiated by the NITI Aayog as useful mentorship platforms.

We also need more collaborations that offer management training, mentoring, networking, and access to capital for greater women's contribution to a green economy.

Third, tip the poor ratio of women in engineering, currently at 19.2%, by updating the engineering curricula with significant automation advances and offering scholarships. Automation means more women can now train in erstwhile literal heavy-lifting engineering roles. Renewable energy, circular economy, and biotechnology, in particular, require technology-driven solutions, and more women engineers are the foundational step. 'Women of Mettle' by Tata Steel offers scholarships to women engineers in the manufacturing sector. Large manufacturing corporations and dedicated funds are required to provide such scholarships.

To unlock India's green growth potential, we must address the barriers that women entrepreneurs face in the green economy. By fostering targeted mentorship, improving access to finance, and building trust in women-led businesses, we can ensure that more women take the lead in shaping a sustainable future. Empowering women is essential for achieving India's vision of a sustainable, developed nation by 2047.

The seeds of sustainability for India's textile leadership

Dipali Goenka
CEO and MD, Welspun Living

Even as one of the world's largest manufacturing hubs, the Indian textile industry faces challenges in sustaining its global presence due to geopolitical tensions, fragmented supply chains, and product price volatility. Climate change or evolving consumer demands are not the only causes, but also the fundamental values that influence business decisions.

In this evolving landscape, achieving a market competitive edge depends on long-term presence, and businesses should explore beyond financial goals, as adaptability, purpose-led innovation, and resilience are also essential. For India to establish its global trade authority, the cultivation, sourcing, and manufacturing practices must be re-examined with a sustainable lens.

Concepts such as regenerative farming, traceability solutions, and product circularity are becoming the operational standards and core manufacturing actions in the industry.

As the sixth-largest exporter of textiles globally, adopting these practices would help the textile industry in strengthening its leadership. We are presented with a growth opportunity to emerge as an important player in the China Plus One strategy, reducing dependence on China and unlocking India's trade potential.

Regenerative farming

In India, regenerative (regen) farming is a viable model amidst concerns of raw material sourcing, climate change, land degradation, and soil erosion. Regen farming practices are already under way in India, with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare considering approximately over one million hectares of farmland for further pilot projects in the coming years. Farmers are equipped with digital resource-based training on regen farming practices.

Real-time data sharing is enabled for growth tracking and transparency. This ecosystem leads to a business model where farmers remain connected with certification bodies, manufacturers, and global market brands.

In Aurangabad, Maharashtra, over 6,000 farmers have joined the Regenerative Cotton Program, which has already shown positive impacts – higher yields, improved climate resilience, reduced reliance on chemical fertilizers, and more cost-effective inputs – leading to better risk management and stable incomes.

Regen farming as a solution helps tackle multiple business concerns at once: rural engagement, improved yields, multi-stakeholder collaborations, and even breaking gender stereotypes in farming. It can also enhance traceability, sustainability compliance, and product quality assurance across the supply chain. The regen farming model is potentially a strong solution to drive India's leadership in the global textile market.

Traceability solutions

Traceable supply chains have a strong potential to ensure product credibility across all stages – sourcing, production, and distribution. Over 37% consumers in the 2023 Consumer Circularity Survey identified sustainability and traceability as important criteria in their purchases. Robust AI and tech-driven traceability solutions are the next big strategies that the Indian textile sector can adopt. Traceability has already transformed from the logistical tracking of a product to delivering a narrative of authenticity and brand accountability.

India's branding initiatives, such as Kasturi Cotton, strengthen the case of traceability, transparency, and quality benchmarking globally. Although currently in the final stages, the India-U.K. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) could amplify such advantages, since the U.K. has one of the world's most environmentally conscious consumer bases.

The EU also emphasises transparency and traceability in the textile industry through international frameworks and DPPs, to protect consumer and environmental concerns.

With the concessions for textiles addressed by the India-U.K. FTA, traceability solutions can help industry players leverage sustainability stories and thereby expand their market presence.

Product circularity

India generates 8.5% of the world's annual textile waste. To retain a competitive edge, the Indian textile industry's vision is to embrace product circularity and sustainability practices. Product designs must evolve from recyclability to also having a longer lifecycle. This means establishing a system at every stage of production – from fibre creation to product development, plastic-free packaging, and post-use consumer disposal – with circularity principles embedded throughout.

Factory waste can be reengineered for newer designs and eventually returned to the soil after a longer product lifecycle.

As endorsed by REIAI's initiatives, a well-functioning circular economy can lead to product innovation, generating more jobs, and an economic competitive edge. India can therefore reduce its reliance on unused raw materials and build a better, self-reliant, and globally relevant system for generations – a vision that the GoI's Viksit Bharat initiative also advocates.

The textile industry must commit to making in India for the world, but through circular, sustainable, and responsible means.

Growing towards

The textile industry is projected to grow to $350 billion by 2030 and could add 35 million new jobs if we align with climate goals and tech-driven innovations. The industry can redefine its global trade leadership vision, with not just manufacturing in volumes, but also with its core business values. We must step ahead of tokenistic green messaging and adapt business models that prioritise regenerative farming practices, traceability solutions, and product circularity.

Strategic decisions made today will help India's global leadership for a sustainable, future-proof, and resilient textile economy. The fabric of the economy's future is dependent on what we envision today and the purposeful designs for the environment that we weave responsibly.

Strategic decisions made today will help India's global leadership for a sustainable, future-proof, and resilient textile economy

The textile industry is projected to grow to $350 billion by 2030 and could add 35 million new jobs if we align with climate goals. REUTERS

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 5, 1975

U.S. may revive bid for W. Asia peace: Ford is back home

Washington, June 4: The U.S. President, Mr. Gerald Ford, returned home to-day after attending a meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation at Brussels and talks on the West Asia situation with President Anwar Sadat of Egypt at Salzburg.

Officials accompanying the President said Mr. Ford had returned with the feeling that his journey was a success.

Mr. Ford himself told a meeting here shortly after his arrival: "Our major alliances are firm and strong." He was referring to his discussions with the heads of Government of the NATO nations.

On the West Asia problem which he discussed with Mr. Sadat, the President made no statement of a substantive kind. It was presumed he preferred to await his impending talks with the Israeli Prime Minister Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, scheduled here for next week.

While the officials travelling with Mr. Ford believed that the Ford-Sadat talks had opened the early possibility of a revival of U.S. diplomatic efforts by Dr. Henry Kissinger, the Secretary of State himself took a cautious line. He said he was not saying there was progress in the talks between the two Presidents, but felt that conditions had been created under which "there could be progress."

Officials here consider that the Israeli action, pulling back troops following the Egyptian decision to reopen the Suez Canal, is a goodwill gesture but no more than that. The number of troops involved is just nominal, about 3,500 soldiers, and some tanks, but it has added to the lessening of tension.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 5, 1925

A hospital for Europeans

A proposal has been made in the previous a separate hospital in the Presidency City for the treatment of European patients, staffed entirely by Europeans. It is believed that the Surgeon-General visited the Royapettah Hospital a couple of months ago in connection with that suggestion.

Politically speaking, the proposed step is bound to be considered by Indian public opinion to be very serious, one which is likely to create further embitterment of feeling between Indians and Europeans. All good Governments aim at removing all distinctions between the different communities, and judged from this standpoint, that system of Government must be condemned which aims at creating further opportunities to separate Europeans from Indians.

From Page One

Next Census to conclude by March 2027: govt.

The Constitution mandates that the first Census after 2026 can be used as the basis to redraw Lok Sabha constituencies which are currently drawn on the basis of 1971 Census data.

The last Census was held in 2011 and the subsequent exercise scheduled to take place in 2021 was delayed indefinitely, initially due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 30, the Union Cabinet had decided to include caste enumeration as part of the next Census exercise.

India's Census is conducted under the provisions of the Census Act, 1948 and the Census Rules, 1990, and will be completed in two phases: first, the house listing and housing schedule; and then, the population enumeration. Both phases usually span a period of 11 months from April 1 to February 28 the following year. This time around, caste will be enumerated in the second phase.

The last census was conducted in 2010 and 2011, with the first phase completed between April 1 and September 30, 2010, and the second phase from February 9 to February 28, 2011.

Retraining enumerators

The 24 lakh enumeration blocks that were finalised for the planned 2021 census are likely to be used for the 2027 exercise. Around 30 lakh enumerators, including a sizeable number of government school teachers, will be trained afresh on the mobile application that has been readied for the exercise.

"A significant addition to the training manual would be the enumeration of caste. Another drop box to record the castes is likely to be added next to the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) tables, the only two categories counted so far," a senior government official said.

No mention of NPR updation

There was no announcement on updating the National Population Register (NPR), which already has a database of 119 crore residents. The population register was to be updated during the first phase of the planned 2021 census.

Citizens may also get an opportunity to "self-enumerate" as the Office of the Registrar General of India, which conducts the census, had developed a self-enumeration portal in English for the planned 2021 census. This option, however, will only be available to those households that have updated the NPR online.

Victory celebrations of RCB turns tragic

The felicitation event prior to this, at Vidhana Soudha, attended by the Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister and Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot, was also hurriedly concluded.

What doctors say

Meanwhile, giving details of deaths and injuries, Bowring Hospital Dean cum Director Manoj Kumar H.V. said five persons, including a 13-year-old girl, were brought dead and a 25-year-old woman was gasping for breath and died in casualty. Apart from the six deceased, including three women, 18 injured fans were currently being treated in the hospital. While a few of them have suffered fractures (ankle, spine and neck) and injuries in the leg and abdomen, a few have suffered head injuries. Their condition is stable as of now, the doctor said.

Vydehi Medical Administrator Humera Sayeeda said apart from the four deceased, 12 others who suffered injuries are under treatment at the hospital. Their condition is stable, she said.

Since late afternoon, roads in and around the stadium and the entire Central Business District (CBD) were choked and traffic police had trouble ensuring smooth movement of vehicles, as huge crowds descended by road, Namma Metro, and on foot.

Govt. to bring new national policy on senior citizens

Population projections estimate 20% of the country will be senior citizens by 2047; discussions focus on how the draft policy should 'reflect demographic realities' as India heads into the future

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

According to the government's projections, senior citizens will account for 12.16% of the country's population in 2026. GETTY IMAGES

A new national policy on senior citizens is in the draft stages with the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, government officials said, adding that some details of it were discussed on Wednesday at a meeting of the National Council for Senior Citizens, chaired by Social Justice Minister Virendra Kumar.

The Ministry said discussions focused on how the draft policy should "reflect the demographic realities" of India as it heads into the future.

A statement from the Ministry said population projections estimated that 20% of the country would be senior citizens by 2047.

According to the 2011 Census, senior citizens accounted for 8.23% of the nation's population at the time.

According to the government's projections, they will account for about 12.16% of the country's population in 2026. The government on Wednesday said the forthcoming Census reference period for a headcount would be March 2027.

A government official told *The Hindu*, "The policy is in a draft stage now. Suggestions have already come in from relevant stakeholders and some of these suggestions were put forth at the meeting on Wednesday."

They added that one of the suggestions was to consider that India will have a higher proportion of senior citizens by 2047.

This was the fourth meeting of the National Council for Senior Citizens, the government said in its statement.

Digital inclusion

At the meeting, the council also deliberated on "digital inclusion" of senior citizens, the government said. It further discussed institutionalising NGOs and senior citizen associations in policy formulation, implementation, and feedback mechanisms.

Deliberations also went into establishing a grievance redress mechanism to address elder abuse and neglect; implementing minimum standards for "old age homes" and senior care institutions; and "promoting community engagement and intergenerational bonding".

The council also undertook a detailed review of the progress under the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY) and Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC), Senior Citizen Portal in terms of enhancing quality and post-distribution follow-up of assisted living devices, the statement added.

The government said that under the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana, more than five lakh senior citizens had been given "free assisted living devices".

YouTuber arrested in Punjab on charges of spying for Pakistan

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

Jasbir Singh

The Punjab Police on Wednesday said its Special Operation Cell in Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar district had arrested a YouTube influencer on charges of spying for Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).

Director-General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav identified the accused as Jasbir Singh, 41, alias Jaan Mahal, a resident of Mahlan village in Rupnagar district. He was operating a YouTube channel titled JaanMahal Video, purportedly uploading travel and cooking content.

Mr. Yadav said the accused had been found associated with Pakistani intelligence operative Shakir, alias Jutt Randhawa, allegedly part of a terror-backed espionage network.

He said Jasbir Singh maintained close contact with Jyoti Malhotra, a Haryana-based YouTuber who has been arrested for espionage by the Haryana Police, and with Ehsan-ur-Rahim, alias Danish, a Pakistani national and expelled official from the Pakistan High Commission to India.

Sensitive information

Sharing details of the operation, Assistant Inspector-General of Police Ravjot Grewal said police teams had received credible inputs indicating that Jasbir Singh had been in contact with several Pakistan-based entities, including ISI agents, and had allegedly been supplying sensitive information pertaining to the movement of the Indian Army and other internal matters to Pakistani handlers.

India, Australia agree to work together in fight against terrorism

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with Australia's Dy. PM Richard Marles. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

India and Australia on Wednesday marked the fifth anniversary of the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries on Wednesday with an agreement to work together to combat terrorism in all its forms.

Australian Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles, who holds the Defence portfolio as well, also called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi following a meeting with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

"Glad to meet Deputy Prime Minister of Australia Richard Marles. Had a productive discussion on deepening the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, which marks its fifth anniversary today. Our shared vision for a stable, secure, and prosperous Indo-Pacific continues to guide our collaboration," said Mr. Modi through a post on X.

Earlier, Mr. Singh and Mr. Marles condemned the terror attack in Pahalgam and expressed condolences to the victims' families.

"Reviewed the full range of the India-Australia defence partnership during the extremely fruitful meeting with Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister @RichardMarlesMP in New Delhi... India thanks Australia for its unequivocal support to India's resolute response against barbaric act of terror in Pahalgam," said Mr. Singh via an X post after the meeting.

The two Ministers welcomed the signing of the Australia-India Joint Research Project and agreed to intensify and diversify defence industry collaboration between the two countries.

Lt. Colonel, his retired IAF officer wife among six missing in Sikkim landslide

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Battered state: Rescue operation carried out by the Army after the landslides in northern Sikkim on Wednesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A Lieutenant-Colonel and his retired Squadron Leader wife are among six individuals still missing after a landslide struck a military camp at Chhaten in northern Sikkim on June 1.

Those missing are Lt. Col. Pritpal Singh Sandhu, retired Indian Air Force officer Aarti Sandhu, and their daughter Amayra Sandhu, Subedar Dharamveer, Naik Sunilal Muchachary, and Sepoy Sainudheen P.K.

"Search operations continue with urgency to locate the six individuals still missing. The Army has deployed specialised teams and engineering equipment, but the ongoing efforts have been significantly hampered by extremely bad weather, unstable ground, and the challenging high-altitude terrain," a Defence Ministry statement said on Wednesday.

The Guwahati-based defence spokesperson Lt Col. Mahendra Rawat said Army teams had been defying extreme weather conditions and a hazardous terrain to assist local people and stranded tourists.

Only foot connectivity

"Lachen village, the main hub for tourism in the region, has been completely cut off. The Army has established foot connectivity to the village and reached out to 113 stranded tourists, who will be evacuated soon," he said.

Thirty tourists, including some foreign nationals, were airlifted by military helicopters after the weather eased on June 3.

Landslides and rockfalls have been the major killers since the early monsoon rain began battering all eight northeastern States from the last week of May. Landslides claimed more than 70% of the 47 lives claimed by rain-induced disasters. Over 800 incidents of landslides have been recorded across the region, with Mizoram accounting for 644 of them, followed by Nagaland with 93. Landslides, landslips, and rockfalls have cut off many strategic locations in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.

In Assam, the number of people affected by floods decreased by 16,008 from 6,33,144 on Tuesday.

Army and IAF carry out relief operations in Northeast

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The armed forces on Wednesday undertook rescue and relief operations in areas affected by floods and landslides in Northeastern States.

"In response to the devastating landslides in Sikkim, Indian Air Force Mi-17 helicopters rapidly launched HADR [humanitarian aid and disaster relief] Ops – airdropping relief supplies, inserting NDRF teams, and evacuating 33 stranded individuals, including two U.S. nationals, from the remote Chaten region," the Air Force said in a post on X.

In Manipur, the Army extended assistance to Soibam Leikai village in Imphal East district. "The unprecedented floods had left the local population struggling for survival, with clean drinking water becoming an urgent necessity. Thus, the Army established emergency drinking water distribution points. Also, 5,750 litres of fresh water was supplied," a Defence Ministry spokesperson said.

SC seeks M.P. reply on plea by journalists against assault

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday sought the Madhya Pradesh government's response on a petition of two journalists who were allegedly thrashed by the police for reporting on illegal sand mining activities.

A Bench of Justices Sanjay Karol and Satish Chandra Sharma, however, refused to grant interim protection from arrest to them.

The Bench agreed to hear the petitions of Shashikant Goyal and Amarkant Singh Chouhan, and issued notices to Madhya Pradesh and the NCT of Delhi for their responses and posted the matter on June 9.

Modi likely to attend BRICS summit in Brazil next month; meet closely watched by U.S. govt.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

PM Narendra Modi, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping at the 2024 BRICS Summit in Russia. FILE PHOTO

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to travel to Rio De Janeiro in July to attend the BRICS summit in Brazil, sources said here.

The gathering is being closely watched by the Donald Trump administration in the U.S. that sees BRICS as a counterweight to the G-7 group of developed nations. Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping are expected to attend, as well as the leaders of Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Iran, Egypt, and Indonesia.

Mr. Modi's attendance at the event comes soon after the four-day conflict with Pakistan, and India's "new normal" on fighting terror. Any joint statement on cross-border terrorism by the largely economic grouping will be significant for India, officials said.

Any meeting with the Chinese President, whom Mr. Modi last met on the sidelines of the previous BRICS summit in Kazan, Russia in 2024, will also be watched with interest, given China's support to Pakistan during Operation Sindoor, and plans to reset bilateral ties with the restart of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra for Indian pilgrims to Tibet in June.

Alternative currencies

In addition, BRICS discussions on the use of alternative or national currencies for trade are likely to trigger reactions in the U.S., given warnings in the past few months by U.S. President Trump against any "de-dollarisation" plans by BRICS, and earlier this week by U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, who said India's participation in the grouping had ruffled feathers in Washington.

Mr. Lutnick said that apart from buying military hardware from Russia, India had "rubbed the U.S. the wrong way" by being a part of BRICS.

"[BRICS countries] are saying, 'Let's move to not support the dollar, and dollar hegemony...' That is not the way to win friends and influence people in America," he said.

The BRICS-11 now represent half the world's population and 39% of global GDP. The G-7, on the other hand – comprising Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the U.K., and the U.S., along with the EU – accounts for about 30% of the world's GDP.

'The Rio reset'

Washington-based think-tanks are billing the meeting of the BRICS grouping the "Rio Reset", suggesting it will pose a challenge to Western economies. According to the Brazil Presidency's concept note, the motto for this year's BRICS summit will be: "Strengthening Cooperation in the Global South for More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance". The note makes no mention of the use of alternate currencies.

HC denies relief to Rahul Gandhi over remarks on Army

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

Observing that freedom of speech is subject to reasonable restrictions, the Allahabad High Court last week denied relief to the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, in a defamation case filed against him over his alleged remarks against the Indian Army.

Rejecting Mr. Gandhi's plea challenging the defamation case as well as the summoning order passed in February by an MP-MLA court in Lucknow, a Bench of Justice Subhash Vidyarthi on May 29 said the trial court was right to summon the Congress leader to face trial for the offence under Section 500 of the Indian Penal Code. "No doubt over the fact that Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India guarantees freedom of speech and expression but this freedom is subject to reasonable restrictions and it does not include the freedom to make statements which are defamatory to any person or defamatory to the Indian Army," the court noted.

The matter pertains to a case filed against Mr. Gandhi by former Border Roads Organisation Director Uday Shankar Srivastava, who alleged that his statements after a clash between the Indian and Chinese Armies in 2022 had defamed the Indian Army. The remarks were made by Mr. Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

India 'vehemently opposed' ADB's funding to Pakistan

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Asian Development Bank had announced that it approved funding of $800 million to Pakistan

In continuation of its efforts in various multinational fora to curb funding to Pakistan, the Indian government has "vehemently opposed" the Asian Development Bank's latest decision to provide additional funding to Pakistan, saying that the neighbouring country's increased military spending cannot fully be explained through domestic resource mobilisation, according to government sources.

In addition, India has told the ADB that it expects the multilateral bank's management to "adequately ring-fence the ADB financing, to prevent any such misuse".

On Tuesday, the ADB announced that it had approved funding of $800 million to Pakistan under its Resource Mobilisation Reform Programme.

"India cautioned the ADB regarding the possibility of misuse of its resources," according to government sources. "The linkage between Pakistan's increase in expenditure on its military, as opposed to on development, cannot be fully explained solely in terms of its domestic resource mobilisation."

The source further said that India pointed out to the ADB that Pakistan's tax collection as a percentage of its GDP fell from 13% in 2017-18 to 9.2% in 2022-23 and continues to remain way lower than the Asia and Pacific average of about 19%. However, India highlighted that there has been "a significant increase" in Pakistan's defence spending during the period.

The Hindu has previously reported on how Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had lobbied strongly with the International Monetary Fund and its members, too, to stop additional funding to Pakistan, and how India will be sending a dossier to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to re-include Pakistan on the 'grey list' of countries that warranted greater supervision. India expressed strong reservations about Pakistan's existing governance system to the ADB, the source added.

"The progress on implementation of the most critical FATF action items relating to terrorist financing investigations and prosecution of leaders of UN-designated terrorist groups and freezing and confiscation of criminal assets is highly unsatisfactory," the source said.

Monsoon Session of Parliament likely to be held from July 21

Opposition says long notice for the session is 'solely to run away' from its demand for a special session to discuss Operation Sindoor; govt. has started reaching out to them to build a 'unified response' for impeachment motion against Justice Varma

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

Plan of action: Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju says every session is a special session, and under the rules, all important matters can be discussed during the Monsoon Session. PTI

The Centre has started reaching out to Opposition parties to build a "unified response" for moving an impeachment motion against the High Court judge Justice Yashwant Varma in the Monsoon Session of Parliament, which is likely to be held from July 21 to August 12.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju told *The Hindu* that the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs had sent a recommendation to President Droupadi Murmu that Parliament be summoned on the dates cleared by the committee, a day after a joint push by the Opposition calling for a special session to discuss Operation Sindoor.

"Every session is a special session for us," Mr. Rijiju said, adding that, under the rules, "all important matters" could be discussed during the Monsoon Session.

Speaking on his outreach to Opposition parties over an impeachment motion against Justice Varma, he said that he had spoken to leaders in the Congress, the Trinamool Congress, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), and the Samajwadi Party (SP), and would be speaking to others soon.

"Most of the outreach was positive, but parties have asked for a day or two to consult within their parties for a firmer view. The government's effort is to get all parties to take a unified view on an issue pertaining to corruption in the judiciary," he said.

Government sources, elaborating on the impeachment process, said that in the case of Justice Varma, there were two views with regard to setting up a committee of inquiry upon the admission of the impeachment motion in either House of Parliament. By the Constitution, the moment a motion of impeachment is admitted in either House, the presiding officer of that House has to set up a committee with a Supreme Court judge, a High Court Chief Justice, and an eminent jurist, which then has to submit its report within three months of admittance of the motion.

Two views

"One view is that there is no need for a second committee to inquire into the matter as the committee mandated by the Supreme Court has already gone into the matter. The other view is that it is in the domain of the presiding officer of the House where the impeachment motion has been admitted to decide whether or not to set up a committee," the source said.

Asked whether Opposition leaders had asked about the fate of the impeachment motion sponsored by the Opposition against Justice Shekhar Yadav, government sources said the two cases were not comparable as one pertained to remarks made by a judge, and the other was an issue of corruption.

The Congress and the Trinamool, however, have questioned the long notice given by the government for the Monsoon Session, which they said had been done "solely to run away" from the demand of the Opposition for a special session.

"Normally the dates for a Parliament session are announced a few days in advance. Never have the dates been declared 47 days before a session is due," Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said in a post on the social media platform X.

The Opposition would discuss the impact of Operation Sindoor and its blatant politicisation; the revelations of the Chief of Defence Staff in Singapore; the hyphenation of India and Pakistan; the embedding of China in the Pakistan Air Force; the continuous claims of U.S. President Donald Trump on mediation; and "the numerous failures of our foreign policy and diplomatic engagements", Mr. Ramesh said.

The Parliamentary Party leader of the Trinamool in the Rajya Sabha, Derek O'Brien, described the long notice for the session as "parliamentophobia". "Parliamentophobia (noun). My word for the acute condition of a (Modi) government who have a morbid fear of facing Parliament. Running away from a special session," Mr. O'Brien posted on X.

Later, he said the government had in the past 11 years often called the Monsoon Session on two to three weeks' notice, and this was the first time they have announced it a month-and-a-half beforehand.

Jairam Ramesh

No reason to delay census for another 23 months: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Hours after the Centre announced the Census schedule, the Congress on Wednesday said there was no reason to delay the exercise for another 23 months and slammed the Modi government for not meeting "deadlines".

'Not meeting deadlines'

"There is really no reason to delay the Census that was due in 2021 for another twenty-three months. The Modi Government is capable only of generating headlines, not meeting deadlines," Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh said in a post on social media platform X.

The Ministry of Home Affairs on Wednesday announced that the 2027 Census with caste enumeration will be carried out with the reference date of October 1, 2026 in snowbound areas like Ladakh and reference date of March 1, 2027 in the rest of the country.

'Make in India' should be given priority, Modi tells Ministers

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In his first meeting with the full Council of Ministers after the launch of Operation Sindoor, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said indigenous weapons had proved their might during the operation, and noted that the nature of warfare had changed from before.

According to those present at the meeting, Mr. Modi said priority should be accorded to "Make in India" with regard to weaponry as much as possible. He said India had shown its might during Operation Sindoor. In a lighter vein, he noted that people in border States such as Punjab might have been wondering where tanks and train loads of such weaponry were, as was the case in the past during such hostilities. "The nature of warfare has changed," he is reported to have said.

'Identify successes'

He asked Ministers in his Council to identify five main successes in their departments and communicate these to the people, in the run-up to the first anniversary of the third Modi government and of 11 years of the NDA government. The Ministers present at the meeting said he urged them to be forward-looking and avoid comparisons with what was done in the past. "See what needs to be done," he is said to have spoken in his address.

Presentations on the road map of projects under the Roads and Highways Ministry and Railways were discussed, and a presentation by the Jal Shakti Ministry was also done during the meeting.

Modi 'surrendered' India's interests under pressure from Trump: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Pawan Khera

The Congress on Wednesday doubled down on its attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and alleged that he "surrendered" India's interests because of pressure from U.S. President Donald Trump. The party said it was wrong to think that "Narendra Modi is India and India is Narendra Modi".

Addressing a press conference, party media and publicity department head Pawan Khera said Rahul Gandhi's "Narender-surrender" remarks encapsulated how the Prime Minister had "time and again surrendered India's national interests in situations where "*vishwaguru*" [world leader] status should have been shown.

On Tuesday, addressing a Congress event in Bhopal, Mr. Gandhi had said that "as soon as Trump signalled from there, picked up the phone and said, 'What are you doing Modi*ji*? Narender, surrender', Modi*ji* obeyed Trump's orders with 'Ji Huzoor'." A day after the jibe, Mr. Gandhi reposted his post on X from 2020 in which he said that Narendra Modi was actually "surrender" Modi.

The Bharatiya Janata Party pushed back by saying that Mr. Gandhi had used language for the Prime Minister that even Pakistanis had not used and it reflected "a sick and dangerous mindset".

Hitting back at the BJP, Mr. Khera said, "When the brave Indian Army had Pakistan on its knees, Trump called and Narendra Modi surrendered. Trump said many times that we got the ceasefire done by threatening about trade, but Modi has not given a reply to Trump till date. He will not even answer, because the name is Narender, the work is surrender – this is the reality and the truth."

The Congress leader said talking about Mr. Modi "surrendering" did not amount to saying India surrendered as the country belonged to 140 crore people.

On Indian students

In a related development, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh expressed concern over the Trump administration's decisions affecting foreign students.

He said that according to the Ministry of External Affairs, approximately 3,37,630 Indian students went to the U.S. for higher studies in 2024 and about a third of the foreign students on American campuses are from India, yet Mr. Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar have remained "totally quiet".

Ex-MLA, Congress leader arrested

The Hindu Bureau
RAIPUR

In separate incidents, a former MLA from Bilaspur and a Congress leader from Bhilai were arrested for allegedly making objectionable remarks about Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Operation Sindoor, police officers said on Wednesday.

In Bilaspur, former MLA Arun Tiwari was arrested on Tuesday following a complaint by Panna Nagar resident Ranjeet Kumar Yadav. Based on the complaint, a case was registered under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the Information Technology Act.

In a separate case, Congress leader Brijmohan Singh was arrested on Wednesday for comments allegedly made against the Prime Minister, a police official said. The complaint was filed by BJP leader Tushar Dewangan.

DIRECTORATE OF TEACHER EDUCATION AND SCERT : ODISHA : BHUBANESWAR

TENDER CALL NOTICE FOR ADMISSION PROCESS FOR THE SESSION 2025-2027 OF D.El.Ed. COURSES

Notice No. 3348 **Date : 03.06.2025**

Request for Proposal (RFP) are invited from reputed agencies, both from State and National Level, for **selection of Service Provider for Online Examination (Computer-Based Test) for D.El.Ed. Course for the session, 2025-2027**. The prospective bidders must meet the qualifying criteria mentioned in the RFP Terms of Reference (Volume I and II). They should have capacity to design, undertake / execute Online Entrance Examination and examination process related work as prescribed in the RFP.

1. Date of release of Tenders	:	**05.06.2025**
2. Last Date for submission of tender	:	**25.06.2025 (05.00 p.m.)**
3. Pre-bid Meeting	:	**12.06.2025 (11.00 a.m.)**

Detailed terms, conditions and schedules of activities and the RFP (Volume I and II) can be seen / downloaded from the website i.e. **www.scertodisha.nic.in.**

Sd/-
Director, TE and SCERT, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

n-62

Rahul's remarks insulting armed forces are nothing less than treason: Nadda

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

J.P. Nadda

The Bharatiya Janata Party on Wednesday accused Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi of insulting the armed forces and the country with his remarks aimed at Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The party described the remarks as "nothing less than treason".

"Rahul Gandhi's terming the unmatched valour and courage of the Indian armed forces a 'surrender' is not only unfortunate but also a grave insult to them, the nation, and 140 crore Indians. If any Pakistani had said this, we would have laughed at him. However, after the manner in which Operation Sindoor wreaked havoc in Pakistan, no one from Pakistan – from its army to even its Prime Minister – dared to say this, but Rahul Gandhi has said this! This is nothing less than treason," said BJP chief J.P. Nadda through a post on social media platform X.

Mr. Nadda said: "The Indian armed forces penetrated 300 km into Pakistan, destroyed 11 of its airbases, demolished nine terrorist bases, and killed more than 150 terrorists. A wailing Pakistan has been telling the world that the Indian armed forces destroyed everything at the 18 places they attacked, and Rahul Gandhi talks about the 'surrender' of the country!"

"In reality, those whose policies have been of surrender cannot think of anything beyond this – Isn't it so, Rahul Gandhi?," asked the Union Minister.

LOOK OUT NOTICE

Ganesh Kumar @ Ganesan, age: 45, son of Gopala pillai, Padinjattinkara House, Puthussery, Mankode, Chithara, as seen in the photo above, is an accused in Crime No: 1004/24; U/S: 296(b) 109(1) BNS at Chithara Police Station. He has been absconding after committing the offense. If anyone has any information about this person, you are kindly requested to contact the phone numbers provided below.

DySP KOTTARAKKARA :9497975154,
ISHO CHITHARA :9497960609,
SI CHITHARA :9497980184,
CHITHARA POLICE STATION: 0474-2440011
(F2/316/2025/I&PRD)

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
e-Tender Notice

Tender No : KWA/HO/SP/03/25-26/BP,TU-01/25-26/AMC, **1.**Maintenance contract of Desktop computers in the various unit of Head office, Jalabhavan, KWA **2.**supply and delivery of stable bleaching powder on one year Contract basis to various division office KWA, **EMD** : Rs. 3600/-, 198662/-, **Tender fee** : Rs. 550/, 25000/-, **Last Date for submitting Tender** : 16-06-2025, 03:00:pm, **Phone** : 8547638078
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Chief Engineer (HRD&GI.) Jalabhavan
(KWA-JB-GL-6-120-2025-26) Thiruvananthapuram

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत्त राजसमन्द
क्रमांक :- टी.एस./ निविदा फाईल / 2025-26/डी-660 दिनांक :- 20.05.2025
निविदा सूचना संख्या 02/2025-26 , NIB CODE - PWD2526A0675
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से सड़क निर्माण कार्यों हेतु मय पांच वर्ष कि मरम्मत एवं संधारण की अवधि लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान एवं राज्य सरकार के अन्य विभागों में पंजीकृत "एए" "ए" "बी" "सी" एवं "डी" श्रेणी तथा केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग /रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से कार्यों हेतु ई-टेन्डरिंग के माध्यम से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में 9 कार्य जिसकी लागत 2086.28 लाख है, प्राप्त की जावेगी। निविदा से सम्बधित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। कार्यवार UBN संख्या निम्नानुसार है।

S. No. of Work	UBN No	S. No. of Work	UBN No
1	PWD2526WSOB02039	6	PWD2526WSOB02046
2	PWD2526WSOB02040	7	PWD2526WSOB02048
3	PWD2526WSOB02041	8	PWD2526WSOB02049
4	PWD2526WSOB02044	9	PWD2526WSOB02051
5	PWD2526WSOB02045		

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MARKETING DEPARTMENT e-Procurement Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited for supply of the items **(1)** 25,00,000 Nos of Bio Compostable Laddu Carry Covers, **(2)** 60,00,000 Nos of Paper Food Bowls (with silver foil), **(3)** 63,00,000 Nos of Leaf Food Bowls (with leaf foil), (4) 3,600 kgs of Coffee Powder (1/2 kg packets only), to the Marketing Department, T.T.Devasthanams,. For Tender notice and tender details log on to the web site **http://www.tirumala.org** and **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.** For further details contact phone numbers: **0877-2264079, 2264555, FAX No: 0877-2264554.**

TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC (Adv.No.87) Date:04-06-2025 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Bureau of Investment Promotion
Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur

BIP/Info/466 **Date :- 22/05/2025**

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for procurement of offset Printing Work for Bureau of Investment Promotion, Jaipur (an Government of Rajasthan undertaking) are invited from interested bidders upto 2:00 PM of 13.06.2025. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portals: **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) and (http://sppp.raj.nic.in)** of the state. **UBN No. BIP2526GLRC00003**

Raj.Samwad/C/25/3537 **Commissioner (Inv. & NRIs)**

INBRIEF

Nine killed as truck crushes van in Madhya Pradesh

Nine people, four of them minors, lost their lives in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh after a cement-laden trailer truck fell on a van in the early hours of Wednesday, the police said. Superintendent of Police Padmavilochan Shukla told *The Hindu* that the incident took place around 2.30 a.m. and the van was carrying 11 members of a family who were returning from a wedding. The truck had been travelling from Rajasthan to Gujarat. Meghnagar police station in-charge Kunwarlal Barkade said the conductor of the truck was detained and questioned. A case has been booked against the driver, who is absconding.

Driver's bid to spit out gutkha causes fatal road accident

A man was killed and two were injured in a car accident in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh on Monday. The car in which they were travelling in crashed into the road divider when the driver opened the door in a bid to spit out gutkha and lost control of the vehicle, the police said. The deceased, Jackie Gehi, 31, a cloth merchant from the Chakarbhatha area, and his friends Akash Chandani (the driver) and Pankaj Chhabra were out on a drive when the accident took place on the Raipur-Bilaspur highway around 1.30 a.m. The police suspect the car was moving at a speed of 120 kmph. They were awaiting a memo from the hospital to file a case of death by negligence against the driver, Mr. Chandani.

Centre asks States to ensure supply of medical oxygen, isolation beds, ventilators

Seven more deaths due to COVID-19 reported in the country; active cases rise to 4,302; public advised to practise hand hygiene, cough etiquette, and avoid crowded places when unwell

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Seven more COVID-19 deaths were reported in the country in the 24 hours till 8 a.m. on Wednesday, taking the death toll this year to 44, show data from the Union Health Ministry. Maharashtra reported four deaths, while Delhi, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu reported one each.

"The public is advised to practise hand hygiene, cough etiquette, and avoid crowded places when unwell. Individuals with acute respiratory illness should self-monitor and seek medical care if symptoms worsen," a senior Health Ministry official said after a series of technical review meetings were held on June 2 and 3 in view of the recent increase in COVID-19 cases in India.

The official said State governments had been instructed to ensure the availability of medical oxygen, isolation beds, ventilators, and essential medicines. "State and district surveillance units under the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) are closely monitoring influenza-like illness (ILI) and severe acute respiratory illness (SARI)."

Deaths have been reported mainly among people with pre-existing illnesses, says a Health Ministry official. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

State units now closely watching influenza-like illness and severe acute respiratory illness

India reported 864 more COVID-19 cases, taking the total number of active cases to 4,302, the Health Ministry said in its updated data.

According to details released by the Ministry, the deceased in Maharashtra included a 55-year-old male with cardiac arrhythmia. "Patient was also a known case of COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) with chronic bronchitis," it said.

A 73-year-old man had cardiogenic shock, Parkinson's disease, COVID-19 pneumonia, and hypertension. A 23-year-old woman had diabetes mellitus, and a 27-year-old male had a comorbid condition and alcohol withdrawal seizure.

In Tamil Nadu, a 76-year-old man died. He had acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), COVID-19 pneumonia, and sepsis with multi-organ dysfunction syndrome (MODS).

While details are awaited about the case in Gujarat, Delhi reported one more death – a woman, 22, with lower respiratory tract infection, COVID-19 pneumonia, shock, and Type 1 respiratory failure.

"Deaths have been reported primarily among individuals with pre-existing illnesses," a Ministry official said.

The official added that mock drills assessing oxygen supply systems are currently ongoing. Also, surveillance testing has been recommended for all admitted SARI cases and for 5% of ILI cases, as per guidelines.

All positive SARI samples are sent for whole genome sequencing through the Indian Council of Medical Research - Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratory network.

"The Union Health Ministry continues to closely monitor the situation," the official said.

IRCTC's digital drive deactivates 2.5-cr. suspect user IDs

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

The IRCTC is taking steps to revalidate suspicious user IDs through mobile numbers.

The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has deactivated 2.5 crore suspect user IDs as part of a digital overhaul of its ticketing infrastructure, officials said on Wednesday.

"Through the deployment of anti-bot systems and integration with a leading Content Delivery Network (CDN) service provider, the Railways has curbed unauthorised automated bookings by unscrupulous agents and improved the access of the website to the genuine users," a senior Railway official said. "131 complaints of suspicious users have been lodged with cybercrime cell in the last four months."

The new system has effectively mitigated all bot traffic, which usually peaks during the first five minutes after the Tatkal booking window opens. Bot traffic accounts for up to 50% of overall login attempts during this period, the official added.

The IRCTC is taking additional steps to revalidate suspicious user IDs through verification of mobile numbers and email IDs. In the past 15 days, around 20 lakh user IDs have been put into revalidation mode to confirm the authenticity of the users, officials said.

On March 6, the IRCTC set its highest single-day ticket booking record of 16,17,404 tickets. On May 22, it recorded the highest number of bookings in one minute, with 31,814 tickets being booked.

The Railways also introduced new user protocols: users not authenticated via Aadhaar can book opening advance reservation period (ARP), Tatkal, or premium Tatkal tickets only three days after registration, while Aadhaar-verified users can book all tickets without delay. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the Railways would soon start using e-Aadhaar authentication to book Tatkal tickets.

India set to assume Presidency of IIAS, a global federation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India has won the Presidency of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) for the 2025-2028 term, a government statement said on Wednesday.

The IIAS is a global federation comprising 31 member countries, 20 national sections, and 15 academic research centres, collaborating on scientific research in public administration. While the IIAS is not a formally affiliated body of the United Nations, it actively engages with the UN's work in the field of public administration.

India has been a member since 1998, represented by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. Key member countries include Japan, China, Germany, Italy, Korea, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Switzerland, Mexico, Spain, Qatar, Morocco, and Indonesia, among others.

For the upcoming term, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had nominated V. Srinivas, Secretary of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, as India's candidate in November 2024. Hearings for the presidency were held in February 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

Four nations – India, South Africa, Austria, and Bahrain – submitted nominations. The election, held on June 3, 2025, saw India and Austria advance to the final round.

India's candidacy received widespread support from across the membership, the statement said.

Illiterate people were given jobs under pressure from Lalu's Rail Ministry, says CBI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prosecutor says they could not even write their names; schools were set up to issue fake certificates

People who could not even write their names were given Group-D jobs in the Indian Railways under pressure extended by the Railway Ministry, then headed by Rashtriya Janata Dal chief Lalu Prasad, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) told a Delhi court on Wednesday. Those selected for these jobs allegedly gifted or transferred land parcels in the name of Mr. Prasad, his relatives, and associates, the agency said.

The CBI's submissions were made in the court of Special Judge Vishal Gogne of the Rouse Avenue Court during a hearing in the alleged land-for-jobs scam case, which pertains to an FIR filed by the Central agency in May 2022. The fraudulent appointments were allegedly made in the West Central Zone of the Railways, based in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, between 2004 and 2009.

'Fake certificates'

During the ongoing proceedings, Special Public Prosecutor D.P. Singh underlined that all applicants for the posts that were part of the scam came from poor economic backgrounds in Bihar. He noted that while many selected candidates were not even able to write their names, many had fake certificates given by schools opened for this purpose.

The agency alleged that the applications were cleared in bulk in a single day, while the normal process takes a long time.

Land transfers

The CBI also produced a chart showing land transfers made in the name of the RJD chief's son, Tejashwi Yadav, a former Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar, for ₹50,000 at a time when the market value of the land was ₹85,000.

The agency alleged that those hired for the Group-D jobs were residents of Patna, and that they themselves or through their family members, sold or gifted their land to Mr. Prasad's family members.

Webinar on MASLD, a liver disease, to be held on Sunday

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore, in association with *The Hindu*, will be organising a webinar on "MASLD: The silent liver disease linked to lifestyle" on Sunday.

Metabolic Dysfunction - Associated Steatotic Liver Disease (MASLD) is an increasingly common yet often undiagnosed liver condition driven by metabolic disorders such as obesity, Type 2 diabetes, and insulin resistance.

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THE HINDU

Ashok Chacko, senior consultant and head, department of gastroenterology and liver diseases, Naruvi Hospitals; E. Rabindranath, consultant, medical gastroenterology, Naruvi Hospitals; and R.S. Arun, head, medical gastroenterology, Madras Medical Mission, Chennai, will be the speakers at the webinar, which will be held at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday.

Soma Basu, Deputy Editor, *The Hindu*, will moderate the session.

E-certificates will be issued to all participants.

Registration is open at https://newsth.live/HIHIUIE.

Muslim Law Board slams plan to open UMEED portal

Ziya Us Salam
NEW DELHI

The Union government's plan to unveil the UMEED portal to digitise the registration process for Waqf properties across India has met with expected criticism from Muslim bodies, notably, the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, which is planning to challenge the move in the Supreme Court.

The Board contended that at a time when petitions challenging the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 are under consideration of the top court, such a move was tantamount to contempt of court.

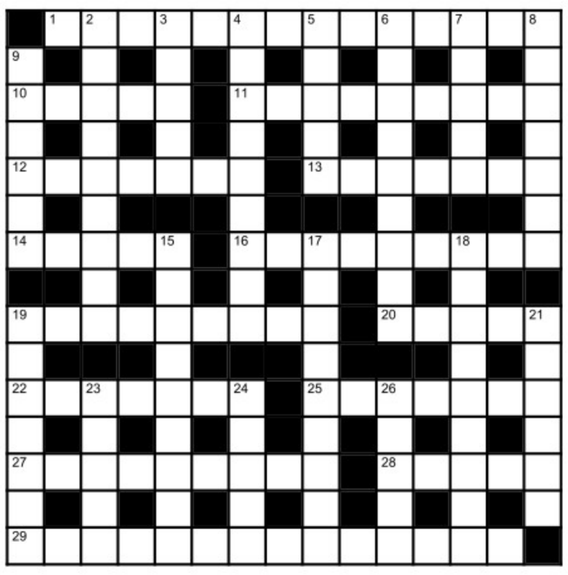
The Supreme Court has heard several petitions against the Waqf Act, and reserved its judgment in the final hearing last month.

TH CROSSWORD + 14503

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Quebecker fan, can red China create trouble? (6,8)
10 German philosopher - setter followed the man (5)
11 Palestine troubled by sanctions (9)
12 Can a people's representative reject the yearbook? (7)
13 Land owned by me perhaps needs fencing all around (7)
14 Tom gets Khans fighting (5)
16 Crowding it hides fault while reducing weight (9)
19 Parodies on what a tailor's son says about his father's occupation (9)
20 Compound houses terrorists - some of them (5)
22 Continuous way to enter - it's not allowed, pay first (7)
25 Relish a drink once in five years (7)
27 Tending to squeeze neck - gets a reprimand (9)
28 Point to God in heaven finally (5)
29 Separate workers, those without uniform get accommodation (9,5)

Down

2 Royal representatives protect one million soldiers (9)
3 Material when they fall into depression, finally (5)
4 Mixing what goes into beer and whisky is child's play (9)
5 Covered primary news within a day (5)
6 Relish a German dance (9)
7 One strives to support climbers (5)
8 Gets into data unearthed for reserves (4,3)
9 Refuse to take drug? Beat up! (6)
15 Remove broken ties, they're the most slippery (9)
17 Spooner's rich Tories provide illumination that's outdated (9)
18 Football club is bagging gold, they're a part of our homes (9)
19 "Search all over the continent", they say to find the perfect solution (7)
21 Arrest Communist, keep him inside (6)
23 Part of a minor masterpiece by Bellini (5)
24 Lions free to enter evacuated place (5)
26 Quarrel over place-stop in the middle (3-2)

SUDOKU

	4	1	8		7			
9							2	
		7			3		5	
		8		7		5	1	3
	7						6	
3	1	2		6		8		
	6		2			1		
	2							4
			1		6	2	3	

No.SS6541 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

F	A	D	D	I	S	H	■	T	E	M	P	E	R	A
A	■	A	■	N	■	U	■	E	■	I	■	G	■	F
L	I	M	P	S	■	S	A	N	S	S	E	R	I	F
T	■	N	■	E	■	H	■	O	■	T	■	E	■	I
E	L	A	S	T	O	M	E	R	■	L	A	T	E	R
R	■	T	■	■	■	O	■	■	E	■	■	■	■	M
■	G	I	S	T	■	N	I	C	E	T	I	E	S	■
■	■	O	■	O	■	E	■	A	■	O	■	M	■	■
■	A	N	E	U	R	Y	S	M	■	E	D	A	M	■
F	■	■	■	R	■	■	■	E	■	■	■	N	■	S
R	O	B	I	N	■	S	C	R	I	M	M	A	G	E
I	■	R	■	E	■	O	■	A	■	O	■	T	■	T
G	R	A	N	D	S	L	A	M	■	D	R	I	F	T
I	■	Z	■	O	■	A	■	E	■	E	■	O	■	E
D	R	E	S	S	E	R	■	N	O	M	I	N	E	E

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	7	6	3	5	8	1	9	4
4	9	8	1	7	2	6	3	5
5	1	3	9	4	6	8	2	7
6	8	7	5	2	3	4	1	9
1	4	2	6	8	9	7	5	3
3	5	9	4	1	7	2	8	6
7	6	5	8	9	1	3	4	2
8	2	4	7	3	5	9	6	1
9	3	1	2	6	4	5	7	8

FAITH

Rama's conversation

Rama, the embodiment of dharma, established it through his conduct and speech. On the eve of going to forest, Rama had a conversation with Kaikeyi, Kousalya, Lakshmana and Sita, which was proof of Rama's steadfastness in following dharma. Navalpakkam Sri Vasudevachariar said in a discourse that when Rama was summoned by his father Dasaratha, Rama came and saw his father lying speechless on the floor. The unrelenting Kaikeyi told Rama that he should go to the forest and Bharatha should be crowned. Not surprised by such unexpected words from his stepmother, Rama took it easy and said he was ready to obey. He touched the feet of Kaikeyi and left. Rama exhibited his equanimity and compassion.

When Rama informed his mother Kousalya about his decision to go to the forest, she was shocked. She told Rama whether she had undertaken various poojas and penances to have a son born, only to be sent to the forest. But Rama pacified his mother.

When Rama met Lakshmana and told him, he became furious, erupting like a volcano. He vowed to overthrow his brother Bharatha and his father. He asked Rama's permission for the same. Rama pacified Lakshmana and advised that, whatever the reason, it would be an act of treason to fight against his father, and said it was his duty as a loyal son to uphold his father's words.

Sita was upset over what Rama had said of his intention to go to the forest. When Rama asked her to stay put at Ayodhya, she became sad and angry. She said she would endure the sun, rain, wind, or hunger with cheer in the forest but would die if left behind.

INBRIEF

Classic Legends unveils Yezdi Adventure at ₹2.14 lakh

Mahindra Group's Classic Legends Pvt. Ltd., which operates under the brand name Jawa Yezdi Motorcycles, on Wednesday unveiled the 2025 edition of Yezdi Adventure at an ex-showroom price of ₹2.14 lakh. "The 2025 Yezdi Adventure embraces classic-ADV styling with its commanding twin LED headlights and distinctive rally-inspired beak, creating an unmistakable road presence," the company said in a statement.

NCLAT declines relief on asset freeze of Gensol entities

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), Delhi, on Wednesday refused to grant any relief to entities related to Gensol Engineering Ltd. on freezing of assets ordered by the vacation bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Ahmedabad, and reverted the matter to the NCLT. Matrix Gas and Renewable Ltd. and Blu Smart Fleet Private Ltd., the entities linked to Gensol, had moved separate appeals before the NCLAT seeking vacation of the order.

Yes Bank to raise up to ₹160 billion via equity, debt

Yes Bank has approved proposals to raise up to ₹160 billion ($1.87 billion) through equity and debt issuances, the lender said late on Tuesday. It plans to raise up to ₹75 billion in equities and ₹85 billion by issuing debt in Indian or foreign currency, the bank said, with the overall equity dilution – including any future conversion of debt into shares – capped at 10%. The private sector lender did not specify what it would use the funds for. REUTERS

Strong export orders drive services PMI to 3-month high of 58.8

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India's services sector activity rose marginally to a three-month high in May 2025, driven by strong exports, according to a private sector survey.

The HSBC India Services PMI Business Activity Index for May came in at 58.8 from 58.7 in April. The reading for May marks the second consecutive month of increased activity.

"A key area of strength was exports, with survey participants reporting one of the strongest improvements in international demand in 19-and-a-half years of data collection," the report said. May's survey also revealed a record increase in employment, as services firms continued to adjust their operating capacities in line with ongoing increases in sales.

West Asia crisis could delay IMEC, says MEA official

Geopolitical issues aside, Dammu Ravi flags competition from similar projects such as the China-led Belt and Road Initiative, and homogenisation of systems across partner countries

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The ongoing crisis in West Asia could pose an obstacle to the completion of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), which was announced on the sidelines of the G20 summit hosted by India in 2023, according to a senior External Affairs Ministry official.

"It's not like we have gone back to square one, but I think the crisis in the Middle East could become a problem or obstacle for the IMEC," Dammu Ravi, Secretary, Economic Relations, in the Ministry of External Affairs said at a conference on IMEC hosted by the Chintan Research Foundation on Wednesday. IMEC is a proposed corridor spanning ship, ship-rail, and road networks to connect India to the Gulf region and the Gulf region to Europe.

Mr. Ravi acknowledged that any mega project of this magnitude would face challenges, but added that the two main issues would be competition from similar projects such as the China-led Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and homogenisation of systems across partner countries.

"In my view, the biggest challenge that could come in the way, apart from geopolitical issues and conflicts, is harmonisation," he said. "The ability to harmonise across platforms, across countries, is important. Harmonisation in terms of regulatory standards, both your technical and phytosanitary regulations, your transportation networks, taxation systems. That will take work."

Mr. Ravi also called for the setting up of a Secretariat or headquarters for the IMEC, which could act as a coordinating mechanism, "without which a very good idea will disappear in no time".

He added that IMEC would require a fund of its own financed by private companies who will benefit from the corridor.

Vice Admiral Anil Chawla (Retd.), a Distinguished Fellow at the Council for Strategic and Defence Research (CSDR), pointed out that the IMEC would reduce cargo transit times but that customs regulations at each transit point could undo the gains.

Hitting a bottleneck

IMEC is a proposed corridor spanning ship, ship-rail, and road networks to connect India to the Gulf region and the Gulf region to Europe

- Project was announced on the sidelines of the G20 summit hosted by India in 2023
- Harmonisation in terms of regulatory standards, transportation network and taxation system pose challenges, says MEA official
- Calls for setting up of a Secretariat or headquarters for the IMEC to act as a coordinating mechanism

Adani Airports raises $750 mn

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Adani Airports Holdings, a subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Ltd., said it has raised $750 million via external commercial borrowings (ECB) from a consortium of international banks.

The transaction was led by First Abu Dhabi Bank, Barclays PLC, and Standard Chartered Bank.

Stainless steel industry seeks policy support

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

India's stainless steel industry has called for a National Stainless Steel Policy to unlock its full potential in manufacturing, innovation, and global competitiveness.

"India's stainless steel consumption reached 4.8 million tonnes in FY25, registering an 8% year-on-year growth. Yet, nearly 30% of this is still met by imports, while domestic capacity remains underutilised," Rajamani Krishnamurti, president of the Indian Stainless Steel Development Association (ISSDA) said, addressing delegates at the Global Stainless Steel Expo 2025 (GSSE 2025) currently underway in Mumbai.

"For the stainless steel industry to reach its true potential, we need a policy framework that boosts confidence, supports Make in India, and ensures long-term sustainability and competitiveness," he stressed. "We are reaffirming our call for a level-playing field, urging policymakers to proactively safeguard the sector while promoting innovation," he said.

"As the world paces towards sustainability and resilient infrastructure, stainless steel's relevance is only growing. However, the influx of unfairly priced imports continues to challenge domestic manufacturers," he highlighted.

Emphasising that stainless steel is no longer just about kitchens, Ratan Jindal Chairman of Jindal Stainless said it is now powering India's future in nuclear, medical, renewable, and transport sectors.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	80,998	0.32
US Dollar	85.87	-0.30
Gold	99,260	0.26
Brent oil	64.68	-1.55

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2489.40	18.50
Adani Ports	1436.20	3.90
Apollo Hosp	6855.00	42.50
Asian Paints	2249.00	-6.70
Axis Bank	1171.00	-10.50
Bajaj Auto	8563.50	0.50
Bajaj Finserv	1956.10	-35.80
Bajaj Finance	8987.00	8.00
Bharat Elec	390.60	4.60
Bharti Airtel	1875.40	34.10
Cipla	1471.90	-1.30
Coal India	394.60	1.75
Dr Reddys Lab	1251.90	3.60
Eicher Motors	5319.50	-34.50
Eternal Ltd.	245.68	7.98
Grasim Ind	2549.70	-2.70
HCL Tech	1626.10	-4.30
HDFC Bank	1941.20	16.60
HDFC Life	758.80	0.90
Hero MotoCorp	4200.60	-8.00
Hindalco	635.85	3.85
Hind Unilever	2364.50	12.20
ICICI Bank	1431.00	-6.90
IndusInd Bank	814.35	13.50
Infosys	1551.20	8.20
ITC	417.00	0.05
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	290.35	6.45
JSW Steel	968.55	-5.25
Kotak Bank	2046.30	1.80
L&T	3626.50	-18.30
M&M	3053.40	6.90
Maruti Suzuki	12163.00	35.00
NestleIndia	2397.50	6.10
NTPC	329.25	1.00
ONGC	238.05	0.78
PowerGrid Corp	288.55	0.30
Reliance Ind	1423.50	18.00
SBI Life	1775.90	0.60
State Bank	806.50	-3.30
Shriram Finance Ltd.	641.20	-7.05
Sun Pharma	1664.90	-2.60
TataConsumerProduct	1124.40	9.80
Tata Motors	709.15	5.30
Tata Steel	158.18	0.83
TCS	3380.90	-24.30
Tech Mahindra	1556.70	12.90
Titan	3499.80	-20.00
Trent Ltd.	5506.50	-83.50
UltraTech Cement	11033.00	-2.00
Wipro	246.86	0.64

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 04

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.70	86.02
Euro	97.52	97.89
British Pound	115.82	116.26
Japanese Yen (100)	59.41	59.64
Chinese Yuan	11.92	11.97
Swiss Franc	104.06	104.46
Singapore Dollar	66.45	66.71
Canadian Dollar	62.53	62.77
Malaysian Ringitt	20.17	20.27
Australian Dollar	55.57	55.78

Source:Indian Bank

Gland gets U.S. FDA nod for Angiotensin II Acetate jab

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Gland Pharma's version of La Jolla Pharma's Giapreza injection for increasing blood pressure in adults with septic or other distributive shock has received U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval.

It is the exclusive first-to-file and consequently eligible for 180 days of generic drug exclusivity, Gland Pharma said, announcing U.S. FDA approval for abbreviated new drug application related to Angiotensin II Acetate Injection 2.5 mg/mL.

Bioequivalent and therapeutically equivalent to reference listed drug Giapreza, the product had U.S. sales of about $58 million for the 12 months ended March 2025.

'Most India next-gen HNWIs will add 10% more offshore assets'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

By 2030, some 98% of next-generation High Net Worth Individuals (HNWIs) in India are planning to increase offshore assets by more than 10%, reported Capgemini on Wednesday.

According to World Wealth Report 2025 released by the French tech firm, this greater focus on offshore investments (investments or physical assets such as real estate or jewellery, or financial assets like bank accounts, investments, and insurance policies outside their home country) comes from better investment options (55%), better wealth management services (65%), better market connectivity (54%), better tax regulations and economic and political stability (49%).

India HNWIs rose 5.6% in 2024.

Further, the survey found, India and Japan stood out in the Asia-Pacific region, with both countries registering 5.6% growth in the number of high net worth individuals, adding 20,000 and 2,10,000 millionaires, respectively, in 2024.

India had 3,33,340 millionaires at end 2024.

Maruti Suzuki eyes ₹925-cr. solar capacity boost by FY31

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Maruti Suzuki India on Wednesday said it plans to invest more than ₹925 crore to expand its captive solar capacity to 319 MWp by FY2030-31.

The car market leader announced the expansion of its solar capacity by 30MWp with two new projects.

The company commissioned a 20MWp solar power project at its new facility in Kharkhoda, Haryana and added another 10MWp solar capacity to its Manesar facility.

With these additions, the company's solar capacity across its locations has enhanced from 49MWp to 79MWp in the last one year, Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) said in a statement.

How Lifestyle Choices Affect Men's Health and Fertility

Dear men, your daily habits may seem harmless – a smoke here, a drink there, skipped workouts, late nights on the laptop, or frequent fast food meals. But over time, these small choices add up, silently affecting your energy levels, hormones, heart, and even your ability to father a child. Fertility rates have declined, with sperm counts dropping 2% per year since 1973, as per the WHO. It's time to look closely at how your lifestyle is shaping your health.

Smoking and Alcohol

Smoking is one of the most damaging habits – not only for your lungs and heart, but also for your reproductive system. Nicotine and other toxins in cigarettes cause oxidative stress, damaging sperm DNA. Smoking also reduces blood flow, affecting erectile function. Many young couples face sperm count and quality issues due to this. Alcohol, especially in excess, disrupts the hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal axis, lowering testosterone. Chronic use is linked to reduced libido and impaired sperm production.

Diet and Weight

Poor diet and excess weight disrupt hormonal balance. Visceral fat (fat around the organs) produces aromatase – an enzyme that converts testosterone to oestrogen – lowering testosterone and affecting libido and sperm production. Additionally, insulin resistance linked to obesity can increase inflammatory markers, which may further suppress the hormonal pathways involved in reproductive and metabolic health. This is a correctable issue and goes a long way in improving fertility and even IVF outcomes.

"Even 5% weight loss with 150 minutes of exercise weekly can boost testosterone and improve sperm count and quality."

Dr Karthikeyan VS
Microsurgical Andrologist & Urologist
Apollo Hospitals, Greams Road, Chennai

Physical Inactivity

Sitting is the new smoking! Prolonged inactivity is a known risk for heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and metabolic disorders – all linked to impaired fertility. Physical activity improves insulin sensitivity, supports vascular health, and boosts testosterone. Exercise is one of the most effective interventions to improve both general and reproductive health.

Chronic Stress

Chronic stress raises cortisol levels, which interfere with testosterone production. Stress also disturbs sleep and increases inflammation, contributing to fatigue, low mood, and sexual dysfunction. Stress is a key contributor to low sperm counts via multiple mechanisms and stress management has shown to improve fertility.

Heat and Hormones

Testicular function depends on maintaining a temperature 2–4°C below core body temperature. Long bike rides, tight clothing, or frequent use of the laptop on the lap can all impair the thermoregulatory mechanism of the scrotum, thereby impacting testicular function and reducing sperm quality.

A Wake-Up Call

Fertility is not an isolated issue. It often reflects the broader state of a man's health. Declining sperm quality, low testosterone, and sexual dysfunction are not just reproductive concerns – they can be early signs of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, or hormonal imbalances. Interestingly, erectile dysfunction often precedes a cardiac event by 3–5 years and a stroke by 10 years if unaddressed.

Being proactive about your health is the first step toward preventing complications before they arise. Consider this article a reminder – not just to check your fertility, but to check your overall health too. If you haven't already done your annual health check, do it today!

Apollo ProHealth PRESENTS
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IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE HINDU

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or email us at sincerelyyourdoctor@thehindu.co.in
with your name, city and query.

Hyundai exits Ola, Kia cuts stake for $80 mn

Reuters

Hyundai Motor sold its entire stake in Ola Electric, while rival South Korean carmaker Kia trimmed holding, in a combined share sale worth ₹6.89 billion ($80 million), according to exchange data.

Hyundai, which held a 2.47% stake in the company, sold shares at a price of ₹50.70, while Kia offloaded 0.6% of Ola Electric shares for ₹50.55, the data showed on Tuesday.

Ola Electric's shares slumped 8% on Tuesday as both disposals were at a nearly 6% discount to its closing price on Monday.

Ola Electric Q4 loss widened on steep discounts it offered.

Hyundai and Kia invested $300 million in Ola in 2019. The firm reported a wider Q4 loss and forecast a revenue dip in the first quarter of FY26 amid steep discounts is was offering.

ZF commissions new plant in Coimbatore

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

ZF Group, an automotive supply and technology company, has commissioned a plant in Coimbatore to cater to the construction and railways segments in the domestic and export markets.

The 10,000 sq. mt manufacturing facility, which has been set up with an investment of €20 million (about ₹192 crore), will initially set apart 85% of production for export market.

Andreas Moser, EVP of Industrial Technology, ZF Group, told the media on Wednesday the plant had the capacity to produce 22,000 transmissions and 35,000 axles annually. While majority of the production will be exported initially, supply to the domestic market will increase in the coming years.

"The new plant here together with the main hub in Germany will support the production capacity needed for future market growth in global construction equipment market.

"The off-highway plant will support ZF's growth in India, supplying world class technology to domestic and global OEMs."

DEIR AL-BALAH

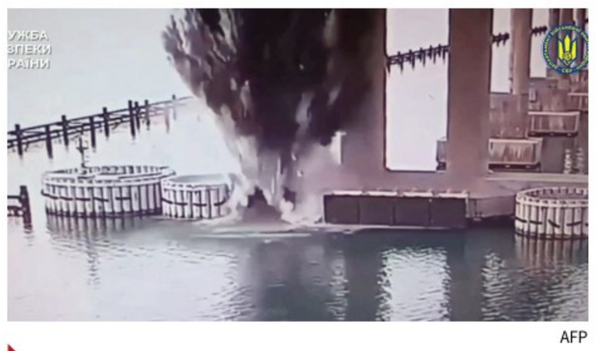
Aid group pauses food delivery after Gazans killed in Israeli strikes

AFP

The Israeli-and U.S.-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation paused food delivery at its three distribution sites in Gaza after health officials said dozens of Palestinians were killed in a series of shootings near the sites this week. Israeli strikes across the territory, meanwhile, killed 26 people overnight and into Wednesday. AP

MOSCOW

'No damage' to Crimea bridge following Ukraine attack: Russia



AFP

Moscow said a Ukrainian attack on Tuesday on a bridge that links the annexed Crimean peninsula to Russia caused "no damage." "There was indeed an explosion," Kremlin spokesman said. "Nothing was damaged. The bridge is working," he said. Ukraine has targeted the 19-km bridge repeatedly since the Russian war. AFP

TEHRAN

U.S. nuclear deal is against Iran national interests, says Khamenei

AFP

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Wednesday a U.S. proposal for a nuclear agreement was against the national interest, amid sharp differences over whether Tehran can continue to enrich uranium. The longtime foes have held five rounds of talks since April to thrash out a new accord. AFP

BEIJING

Beijing calls Rubio's Tiananmen Square remarks an attack on China

AFP

Beijing hit back at U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio for saying that the world will "never forget" the deadly Tiananmen Square crackdown in 1989, describing his remarks as an "attack" on China. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lin Jian said Beijing had "lodged a solemn protest" over the U.S. politician's comments. AFP

'Extremely hard' to make a deal with Xi, says Trump as steel tariffs double

U.S. President to hold talks with his Chinese counterpart this week; Beijing says its stance on developing Sino-U.S. relations is consistent; ministers from OECD countries meet in Paris to discuss the outlook for world economy in light of U.S. tariffs

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

Donald Trump said on Wednesday that it was "extremely hard" to reach a deal with Chinese leader Xi Jinping, but the EU touted progress in its own trade talks with Washington even though the U.S. President doubled global metal tariffs.

Mr. Trump's latest trade moves came as Ministers from Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries gathered in Paris to discuss the outlook for the world economy in light of a U.S. hardball approach that has rattled world markets.

Extreme measures: China was the main target of Donald Trump's April tariff blitz, with levies to the tune of 145% on its goods. REUTERS

Mr. Trump's sweeping tariffs on allies and adversaries have strained ties with trading partners and sparked a flurry of negotiations to avoid the duties. The White House has suggested the President will speak to Mr. Xi this week.

However, early on Wednesday, Mr. Trump appeared to dampen hopes for a quick deal. "I like President XI of China, always have, and always will, but he is VERY TOUGH, AND EXTREMELY HARD TO MAKE A DEAL WITH!!!" he posted on his Truth Social platform.

Asked about the remarks during a regular press briefing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lin Jian said: "The Chinese side's principles and stance on developing Sino-U.S. relations are consistent."

China was the main target of Mr. Trump's April tariff blitz, hit with levies of 145% on its goods and triggering tit-for-tat tariffs of 125% on U.S. imports.

Temporary relief

Both sides agreed to temporarily de-escalate in May, after Mr. Trump delayed most sweeping measures on other countries until July 9.

His latest remarks came hours after he increased his tariffs on aluminium and steel from 25% to 50%, raising temperatures with various partners while exempting Britain from the higher levy.

Putin said he will retaliate against Kyiv's strikes: Trump

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump said that Russian President Vladimir Putin told him "very strongly" in a phone call on Wednesday that he will respond to Ukraine's weekend drone attack on Russian airfields, as the deadlock over the war drags on and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy dismisses Russia's ceasefire proposal.

The U.S. President said in a social media post that his lengthy call with Mr. Putin "was a good conversation, but not a conversation that will lead to immediate Peace."

It's the first time Mr. Trump has weighed in on Ukraine's daring attack inside Russia. The U.S. did not have advance notice of the operation, according to the White House.

Risky business: Ukraine conducted a massive drone attack against Russian military airbases on Sunday. REUTERS

Mr. Trump did not say how he reacted to Mr. Putin's promise to respond to Ukraine's attack, but his post showed none of the frustration that Mr. Trump has expressed with his Russian counterpart in recent weeks over his prolonging of the war.

During the call, Mr. Trump's first known talk with Mr. Putin since May 19, they also discussed Iran's nuclear programme, according to Mr. Trump.

It was not clear if Mr. Trump also planned to speak with Mr. Zelenskyy.

Corbyn presents Bill in U.K. parliament, questioning govt.'s support for Israel

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

Pressure is mounting on the U.K. government of Keir Starmer to take a stronger position against Israel's actions in Gaza and this was on full display on Wednesday, with MPs, including those from the governing Labour Party, quizzing the government on its positions and accusing the Israeli government of Benjamin Netanyahu of genocide. International Red Cross president Mirjana Spoljaric told the *BBC* that the situation in Gaza had become "worse" than "hell on earth".

Independent U.K. MP and former Labour Party Leader Jeremy Corbyn introduced a Bill in the U.K. House of Commons on Wednesday afternoon, seeking an independent inquiry into the U.K.'s role in the conflict and its support for Israel. Another MP, from Labour, said there was "extreme disquiet and unease" with government positions on the conflict.

Specifically, one of the concerns is that British equipment for F-35 jets are finding their way into Israeli planes that are used in committing acts contrary to international humanitarian law. In September 2024, the U.K. government had suspended around 30 arms licenses (out of approximately 350) to Israel over such concerns.

Some of the other demands voiced in parliament on Wednesday were for the U.K. government to speed up the recognition of a Palestinian state, to term Israel's actions 'genocide' and for Downing Street to apply sanctions against certain Israeli government Ministers adopting extreme positions. Last month, the Starmer government announced it was suspending trade talks with Israel and had sanctioned some Israeli settlers in the West Bank.

Under pressure from his own party and others to stop arms exports to Israel, U.K. Foreign Office Minister Hamish Falconer was grilled in the House of Commons on Wednesday, when he insisted that the government was being transparent about arms licenses.

On being asked whether the Starmer government believes that the Israel had engaged in genocide, the minister said that it was the longstanding position that this was for a competent court to determine.

"Our grandchildren will ask why we effectively stood by whilst a people were eradicated by bombs, by bullets, by starvation and no doubt the further ethnic cleansing that is still to come," Labour MP Paula Barker said.

Bangladesh drops the title of 'Father of the Nation' for Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The interim government of Bangladesh in a notification changed a 2022 Act and removed the mention of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as the 'Father of the Nation'. The development came soon after the administration led by Mohammed Yunus brought in a new set of currency notes that removed the image of Sheikh Mujibur.

The development comes soon after the the introduction of a new set of currency notes without the image of Sheikh Mujibur. AP

The new notification brought on June 3 does not refer to Mujibur as the 'Father of the Nation' while referring to the war of 1971 and the role of freedom fighters. In contrast, the 2022 Act had referred to him as '*Jatir Pita*,' (Father of the Nation) at multiple points while describing the heritage of the war of 1971. Earlier this week, the Yunus government introduced a series of currency notes that depicted the pluralistic heritage of Bangladesh but removed the well known image of Mujibur that are seen in the existing currency notes of Bangladesh. The interim government has defended the removal of Mujibur from the 'Liberation War Act'and said, he continues to be a 'freedom fighter'.

In a statement to the media, the government said, "President of the 1971 government of Bangladesh-in-exile Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and other leaders like Tajuddin Ahmed, Mansur Ali, and AHM Quamruzzaman continue to be freedom fighters".

The new definition of freedom fighters, as per the notification, will include people who helped the cause of independence by advocacy and campaigning while being outside or inside the country.

Sport

Boisson ousts Andreeva, meets Gauff in last four; Sinner and Alcaraz cruise

Hitting back: Gauff rallied to scuttle the aspirations of Australian Open champion Keys. AP

FRENCH OPEN

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

An inspired Lois Boisson delighted Roland Garros as the French World No. 361 downed Mirra Andreeva on Wednesday to set up a French Open semifinal against Coco Gauff.

Boisson, making her debut at a Grand Slam event, powered her way to a thrilling 7-6(6), 6-3 victory on a raucous Court Philippe Chatrier to become the first Frenchwoman to reach the semis since Marion Bartoli in 2011.

After 40 years

The 22-year-old, who was due to play at last year's French Open but suffered a knee injury the week before the tournament, is the lowest-ranked woman to reach a Major semifinal in 40 years.

"It was incredible to play in front of this crowd and feel support like that," said Boisson, after hitting 24 winners past Russian sixth seed Andreeva to follow up her fourth-round win over World No. 3 Jessica Pegula with an even more surprising victory.

A dramatic first set saw Andreeva miss a set point after leading 5-3, before Boisson fought back only to see three chances of her own come and go in a marathon 12th game. But the wildcard fought off another set point in the tiebreak, before taking her next opportunity, cupping her ear towards the adoring crowd in celebration.

Andreeva gathered herself and quickly built a 3-0 lead in the second set, only to be left jumping up and down in anger after a missed backhand gave Boisson a much-needed hold of serve.

The 18-year-old Andreeva started to crumble under the pressure and was roundly booed when she then argued with the umpire over a line call, and was broken later that game after another double-fault to suddenly trail 4-3.

Boisson made it six consecutive games to secure a seismic victory as Andreeva, one of the pre-tournament favourites, completely unravelled.

Second seed Gauff battled back from a set down to defeat fellow American, and Australian Open champion, Madison Keys in an error-strewn opening match 6-7(6), 6-4, 6-1.

The former US Open champion upped her level enough after dropping the first set to get through a quarterfinal littered with 14 double-faults and a whopping 101 unforced errors.

Gauff, the 2022 losing finalist, will be hoping to go at least one better than when she lost to Iga Swiatek in last year's semifinal.

Swiatek continues her bid for a fourth consecutive Roland Garros title in a blockbuster clash with World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka in Thursday's other semifinal.

Meanwhile in the men's section, Jannik Sinner booked himself a second consecutive semifinal appearance on Wednesday with a ruthless straight-sets victory over unseeded Kazakh Alexander Bublik. The top seed, who cruised through 6-1, 7-5, 6-0, is still yet to drop a setthis year.

Reigning champion Carlos Alcaraz glided into the semifinals, blowing away American 12th seed Tommy Paul on Court Philippe Chatrier on Tuesday. The Spaniard needed just 94 minutes to dismantle Paul 6-0, 6-1, 6-4.

Thursday's schedule:
Women's singles semifinals:
1-Sabalenka vs. 5-Swiatek;
2-Gauff vs. Boisson.

QUARTERFINAL RESULTS

Men: 1-Sinner (Ita) bt Bublik (Kaz) 6-1, 7-5, 6-0; 2-Alcaraz (Esp) bt 12-Paul (USA); 8-Musetti (Ita) bt 15-Tiafoe (USA) 6-2, 4-6, 7-5, 6-2.
Women: 2-Gauff (USA) bt 7-Keys (USA) 6-7(8), 6-4, 6-1; Boisson (Fra) bt 6-Andreeva (Rus) 7-6(6), 6-3.

BIG THANKS

It's for all the fans who have supported RCB, says Kohli

K. MURALI KUMAR

"It's for all of you - the fans, the people of this wonderful city, people who've supported RCB through thick and thin. I've never seen any fan base of any team in the world like this franchise," said Virat Kohli. Skipper Rajat Patidar, like Kohli, also waxed eloquent about the loyal fans, considered by many among the most passionate.

AIMING HIGH

Get addicted to winning: Bobat tells RCB players after maiden title

VIJAY SONEJI

Their long-cherished dream finally realised, RCB's director of cricket Mo Bobat has now set his sights on claiming a second successive IPL title next year, and urged his players to "get addicted to winning." He asked his players to make winning a habit and is looking to claim back-to-back IPL titles.

NOT IDEAL

Celebrations should have been planned better: BCCI secretary

K. MURALI KUMAR

The BCCI rued the preparatory lapses that marred RCB's IPL-winning celebrations. "It is very unfortunate. This is a negative side of popularity. People are crazy for cricketers. The organisers should have planned it better. Condolences to families of the deceased," BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia said.

UNFORTUNATE

Royal Challengers mourn the tragic loss of lives

K. MURALI KUMAR

RCB mourns the tragic loss of lives and extends our heartfelt condolences to the affected families. Immediately upon being made aware of the situation, we promptly amended our programme and followed the guidance and advice of the local administration. We urge all our supporters to please stay safe — RCB management.

RCB — the making of a champion outfit

The team found heroes in each position with nine players bagging PoM awards; Krunal, Hazlewood among standout performers; star batter Kohli scored eight half-centuries in the season; Patidar & Co. endured three early losses at home before the turnaround came with a win over Rajasthan

IPL-18

Ashwin Achal
AHMEDABAD

For far too long, Royal Challengers Bengaluru relied on star power to get the job done. The likes of Chris Gayle, A.B. de Villiers, Kevin Pietersen and Virat Kohli did provide their share of entertainment, but as a collective, RCB could not come together to realise the dream.

This time around, there were heroes in every position - evidenced by nine players claiming the 'Player of the Match' award this season. Some of the names on this list - Krunal Pandya, Jitesh Sharma, Suyash Sharma - far exceeded expectations.

At 34, Krunal had a dream tournament, culminating with an exceptional performance in the final against Punjab Kings here on Tuesday. His tight spell took all the momentum out of the PBKS chase.

Wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh revelled in the role of a finisher, the highlight coming in an unbeaten 33-ball 85 against Lucknow Super Giants.

Legspinner Suyash, batter Tim David and Romario Shepherd, who took the match-winning wicket of Shreyas Iyer in the summit clash, ensured that the RCB eleven is stacked with match-winners.

At the end of IPL 2025 auctions, there were concerns that the franchise was too conservative with the bids. The first day went without much fanfare, while value for money signings were made on the following day. As it turned out, the team management –head coach Andy Flower, Director of Cricket Mo Bobat and mentor Dinesh Karthik – got it right. A cohesive unit was the order of the day, a task achieved with foresight.

The early part of the campaign brought on-field challenges. After three straight losses at home, due in large part to RCB being inserted in to bat on a tricky M. Chinnaswamy Stadium surface, the turnaround came in an 11-run win over Rajasthan Royals. From here, there would no stopping the side from comfortably reaching the playoffs stage.

The star, Kohli, was not left behind. With eight fifties and an average of 54.75, Kohli did his bit at the top of the order. The big-hitting was primarily left to his partner Phil Salt, but Kohli's steady presence meant that opponents stayed nervy.

Josh Hazlewood's return in the finishing stages of the tournament came as a tremendous boost. The Australian's hard length and extra bounce was invaluable in the PowerPlay, where he often did maximum damage.

All the pieces of the puzzle fell into place, allowing RCB to break a long barren run.

The season highlights

A recap of the 18th edition of the T20 extravaganza: IPL

RUN MACHINES

	Inns	Runs	HS	SR	100s/50s
Sai Sudharsan (GT)	15	759	108*	156.17	1/6
Suryakumar (MI)	16	717	73*	167.91	0/5
Kohli (RCB)	15	657	73*	144.71	0/8
Gill (GT)	15	650	93*	155.87	0/6
Marsh (LSG)	13	627	117	163.70	1/6
Shreyas (PBKS)	17	604	97*	175.07	0/6

SCALP HUNTERS

	Inns	Wkts	BB	Econ	4W
Prasidh (GT)	15	25	4/41	8.27	1
Noor (CSK)	14	24	4/18	8.16	2
Hazlewood (RCB)	12	22	4/33	8.77	1
Boult (MI)	16	22	4/26	8.96	1
Arshdeep (PBKS)	16	21	3/16	8.88	0
Sai Kishore (GT)	15	19	3/30	9.24	0

8 RCB is the eighth different franchise to clinch the IPL crown

14y 32d Suryavanshi's century (35b) against GT is the fastest by an Indian in the IPL. He is also the youngest to hit a hundred in the IPL as well as T20s

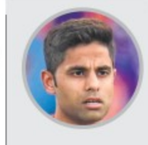
23y 231d Sai Sudharsan is the youngest to win the Orange Cap

141 Abhishek's score (SRH vs PBKS) is the highest by an Indian in the IPL

52 The 200-plus totals in 2025, making it the most in an edition

"It's obviously a special moment for all our RCB fans in particular, but also for us in the dressing room. It's been quite a campaign, and you know how much hard work, sweat, tears, and thought go into trying to win an IPL. There are 10 great teams going hard at it"
ANDY FLOWER
RCB head coach

475 Priyansh's runs are the most by an uncapped Indian in his debut campaign



717 Suryakumar becomes the first non-opener to amass more than 700 runs in a campaign

1062 Kohli is the first to cross the four-figure mark in boundaries (771 fours, 291 sixes)

1294 The sixes count in IPL-18, the highest in a season

2245 The number of fours hit in 2025, the most in an edition

COMPILED BY AKANKSHA CHAKRABORTY

Mr. Cool: RCB captain Patidar didn't allow the pressure of leading affect him. K. MURALI KUMAR

Flower heaps praise on RCB skipper Patidar

Ashwin Achal
AHMEDABAD

Royal Challengers Bengaluru head coach Andy Flower hailed captain Rajat Patidar for excelling in a tricky job.

"One of the most impressive things about Rajat is that he has not been affected by captaincy. He is still the lovely, gentle, polite Rajat Patidar that we knew last year. He has not changed at all in that regard," Flower said in the press conference after RCB emerged as the IPL 2025 champion.

"I cast my mind back to how poorly I captained when I was his age. I've got tremendous respect for how he handled himself with all that scrutiny, and captaining some big players.

"You cannot underestimate the calmness that he showed in leading some really big players, in a really big franchise. Rajat made good decisions in the middle under pressure. I have got tons of respect for him. I am really proud of the way that he carried himself," Flower said.

Flower explained that RCB's auction strategy was sound, despite the initial criticism.

"We copped some flak after the first day of the auction. People thought that we were investing our money rather than spending it. But it meant that there was some really good value to be had on the second day. We got guys like Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Krunal (Pandya), Tim David and Romario Shepherd all on that second day. So that was really important," Flower said.

Phil Salt's splendid catch to dismiss Punjab Kings opener Priyansh Arya was a turning point in the final, Flower said.

"That was an outstanding catch, wasn't it? It was a perfect example of someone holding his nerve under pressure."

He only got back from England at 3 o'clock this morning (Salt had made a quick visit to England to witness the birth of his child). The catch was a turning point," Flower said.

We lost a bit of momentum at a critical time: Kings coach Ponting

Ashwin Achal
AHMEDABAD

Normally an attacking opening duo, Punjab Kings' Priyansh Arya and Prabhsimran Singh were oddly circumspect against Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the IPL 2025 final here on Tuesday.

PBKS would have hoped for a rollicking start in pursuit of the 191-run target, but the opening stand brought only 43 runs in five overs.

The next two overs did not yield many runs either, robbing the side of an early push. PBKS head coach Ricky Ponting admitted that the slow start cost the team.

"We lost a bit of momentum at a critical time – in the last couple of overs of the PowerPlay. The momentum just started to go away a little bit, and then, four or five overs outside the PowerPlay, we lost critical wickets and lost momentum again," Ponting said after PBKS fell short by six runs.

Circumspect: Opener Prabhsimran could not give an aggressive start in the final. VIJAY SONEJI

The Australian added that "a little bit of experience in the middle order" would have helped the cause. Ponting believes that Shreyas Iyer should have been included in the Indian Test team which will soon travel to England.

"Shreyas has been a huge part of our season. He has grown as a person, as a player and as a leader. I thought he would have been picked in the Test team, but they have gone another way," the 50-year-old said.

"You can see by the look in someone's eye how determined they are. Shreyas was very determined at the start of this season, before that Test selection was even made. He was determined, like me, to come to a new team and make an immediate difference, and he's done that. He is the only captain to take three different franchises to three IPL finals, so that probably says enough about him as a leader," Ponting said.

Shreyas has grown as a person, as a player and as a leader
PONTING

Izaac and Maria shine, Dabang exacts revenge against Challengers

UTT

Amol Karhadkar
AHMEDABAD

Riding on a sterling show by Quek Izaac up front and Maria Xiao in the last rubber, Dabang Delhi TTC avenged last year's final loss against defending champion Goa Challengers in the sixth edition of Ultimate Table Tennis.

The 9-6 victory at the EKA Arena on Wednesday not only brought a smile to captain G. Sathiyan's face – despite being beaten by arch rival Harmeet Desai in his singles affair – but also catapulted the Delhi outfit to the top of the standings.

Izaac - the Singaporean teenager - set the tone for Dabang by overcoming veteran Tiago Apolonia, the five-time Olympian, in the first match.

Despite being ranked much lower than the Portugal paddler, Izaac's raw power and quick reflexes helped him win all three games in the battle between the youngest and oldest overseas participants of the season.

Zeng Jian - Izaac's fellow Singaporean - then brought parity to the scoreline by handing Dabang's Diya Chitale a lesson in consistently finishing off rallies.

Sathiyan and Maria then teamed up to defeat Harmeet and Zeng before Harmeet levelled the scoreline at six games apiece after trailing 1-0.

Harmeet upped the ante and increased his pace substantially to force Sathiyan into errors at key moments.

But Maria, the Spaniard, cruised past UTT debutant Sayali Wani – who was preferred ahead of Krittwika Sinha Roy – in the deciding rubber to extend Dabang's points tally to 19.

Later, Reeth Rishya's clean slate in the last women's singles helped PBG Pune Jaguars outplay Kolkata ThunderBlades 10-5 in the night match and join Dabang Delhi as joint leaders in the points table.

Setting the tone: Izaac had no trouble defeating five-time Olympian Apolonia in the first match. VIJAY SONEJI

The results: Dabang Delhi TTC bt Dempo Goa Challengers 9-6 (Quek Izaac bt Tiago Apolonia 11-8, 11-9, 11-9; Diya Chitale lost to Zeng Jian 9-11, 5-11, 6-11; Maria Xiao & G. Sathiyan bt Zeng & Harmeet Desai 8-11, 11-5, 11-8; Sathiyan lost to Harmeet 11-8, 9-11, 9-11; Maria bt Sayali Wani 11-3, 11-7, 11-6).

PBG Pune Jaguars bt Kolkata ThunderBlades 10-5 (Alvaro Robles bt Quadri Aruna 10-11, 11-10, 11-10; Dina Meshref bt Adriana Diaz 11-8, 1-11, 11-10; Dina & Anirban Ghosh bt Diaz & Ankur Bhattacharjee 11-9, 11-9, 7-11; Anirban lost to Ankur 8-11, 7-11, 11-8; Reeth Rishya bt Selenadeepthi Selvakumar 11-9, 11-8, 11-8).

Thursday's fixtures: Jaipur Patriots vs U Mumba TT (5 p.m.); Stanley's Chennai Lions vs Ahmedabad SG Pipers (7.30 p.m.).

INBRIEF

India gets reality check, loses to Thailand

India lost 2-0 to Thailand in an international football friendly in a reality check ahead of its crucial Asian Cup qualifying round match, at Pathum Thani on Wednesday. Benjamin Davis and Poramet Arjvilai scored for Thailand in the eighth and 59th minutes respectively as the home side dominated the match. India had won the last two matches between the two sides before Wednesday's defeat. Thailand, ranked 99th, was clearly the better side on the day.

Karunakaran-Variyath pair stays alive in mixed doubles

Sathish Kumar Karunakaran and Aadya Variyath entered the mixed doubles second round of the Indonesia Open Super 1000 badminton tournament but all other Indian pairs exited after opening round losses in Jakarta on Wednesday. Karunakaran and Variyath rallied to beat Chinese Taipei's Ye Hong Wei and Nicole Gonzales Chan 15-21, 21-16, 21-17 in 45 minutes.

The results (first round): Mixed doubles: Sathish Kumar Karunakaran & Aadya Variyath bt Ye Hong Wei & Nicole Gonzales Chan (Tpe) 15-21, 21-16, 21-17; Yuichi Shimogami & Sayaka Hobara (Jpn) bt Rohan Kapoor & Ruthvika Shivani Gadde 21-14, 21-9; Mads Vestergaard & Christine Busch (Den) bt Ashith Surya & Amrutha Pramuthesh 21-15, 21-9; Tang Jie Chen & Ee Wei Toh (Mas) bt Dhruv Kapila & Tanisha Crasto 21-11, 16-21, 21-14.

LIVE TELECAST

Roland Garros: Sony Sports Ten 2, 5, LIV & FanCode, 3.30 & 6.30 p.m.

TNPL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.

Ultimate Table Tennis: JioHotstar, 5 & 7.30 p.m.

Norway Chess: Sony LIV, 8.30 p.m.

Nations League: Sony Sports Ten 5 & LIV, 12.15 a.m. (Friday)

Nakamura stops Gukesh; Arjun upsets Caruana

World champion tied for the third place; Carlsen goes down to Yi; Humpy grabs the lead in women's event; Vaishali stuns Wenjun

NORWAY CHESS

Press Trust of India
STAVANGER

American Grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura broke World champion D. Gukesh's run of classical wins by comprehensively beating the Indian to earn three full points even as Arjun Erigaisi roared back to contention with victory over Fabiano Caruana in the Norway Chess tournament here.

India's Arjun trapped his opponent Caruana in a time scramble in the eighth round of the prestigious tournament on Tuesday.

World No. 2 and former Norway Chess champion Nakamura pressed home the early advantage he got with the white pieces to dominate his 19-year-old opponent and score a "very smooth" victory and take revenge for his round three loss to the Indian.

The right moves: Arjun roared back into contention with a win over Caruana. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

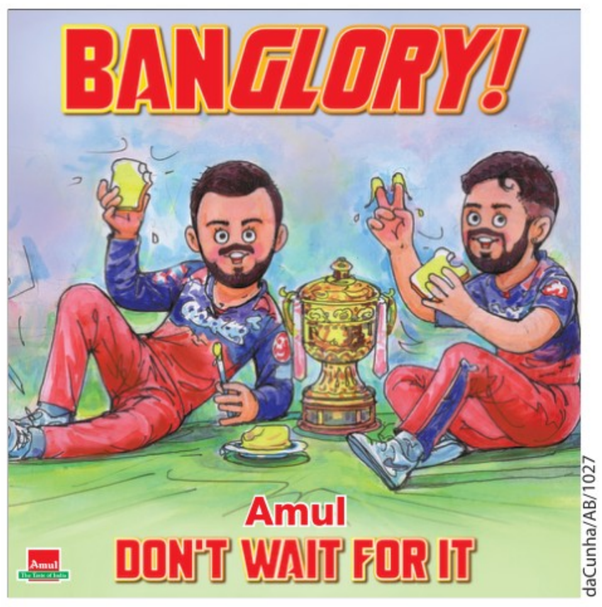
With two more rounds to go, Gukesh was tied for third place with Nakamura on 11.5 points, while American GM Caruana, despite the loss to Erigaisi, was in the lead with 12.5 points.

Carlsen, who lost to China's Wei Yi in the Armageddon tie-break, was second with 12 points, while Arjun was fifth with 10.5 points.

Two-time World Rapid champion, India's Koneru Humpy wrested back the lead with two rounds to go, beating Spanish International Master Sara Khadem in the day's only classical win.

The results: Eighth round: Open: Arjun Erigaisi (10.5) bt Fabiano Caruana (USA, 12.5); Hikaru Nakamura (USA, 11.5) bt D. Gukesh (11.5); Wei Yi (Chn, 8) bt Magnus Carlsen (Nor, 12) in Armageddon tie-breaker.

Women: Sara Khadem (Esp, 6) lost to K. Humpy (13.5); R. Vaishali (9.5) bt Ju Wenjun (Chn, 12.5) in Armageddon tie-breaker; Anna Muzychuk (Ukr, 12.5) bt Lei Tingjie (Chn, 10) in Armageddon tie-breaker.



daCunha/AB/1027

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Vani's six birdies fires her to the top

Vani Kapoor fired six birdies, three on either side of the par-70 Bangalore Golf Club, to card 3-under 67 in the opening round of the 8th leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour.

A three-time winner in the current season, Vani recorded one of four under par rounds of the day, as she led Durga Nittur by one and amateurs Saanvi Somu and Zara Anand by two shots.

Four players including Gaurika Bishnoi, Ananya Garg, Anvitha Narender and Karishma Govind were tied for fifth place with cards of even par 70 each.

Big wins for Hoops 7 BC, Mandya District

Hoops 7 BC and Mandya District recorded dominant wins in the boys' and girls' super league matches respectively in the State junior basketball championship for the D.N. Rajanna Memorial Trophy at the Kanteerava courts on Wednesday.

While Hoops beat Bangalore Sporting 82-41, with Samarth Manur scoring 24 points, Mandya cruised past Cincinatics BC 57-11.

Hat-trick by Kipgen as BPSS wins big

Powered by Hemminlen Kipgen's hat-trick, BPSS hammered Williams SA 6-0 in a Group-B match of the KSFA U-21 Youth Premier League football tournament here on Wednesday.

Hawks has it easy against Stadium

Hawks FC blanked Stadium FC 4-0 in the KSFA C-division football league here on Wednesday.

Other results: FC Mangalore bt La Esparanza 4-0; Agniputhra FC bt Bangalore North FC 3-0.

SNAPSHOTS

Dhiraj and Ankita top Indian performers in qualification

B. Dhiraj and Ankita Bhakat in recurve and Rishabh Yadav and Madhura Dhamangaonkar in compound emerged as the top Indian archers in the qualification round of the Archery World Cup Stage-3 in Antalya, Turkiye, on Wednesday.

The results: Qualification round: Recurve: Individual: Men: B. Dhiraj (13th, 572), Atanu Das (15th, 570), Parth Salunkhe (26th, 565), Tarundeep Rai (33rd, 561). **Women:** Ankita Bhakat (33rd, 547), Deepika Kumari (35th, 547), Simranjeet Kaur (54th, 533), Anshika Kumari (67th, 523). **Team: Men:** India (fifth, 1707); **Women:** India (12th, 1627); **Mixed:** India (13th, 1119). **Compound: Individual: Men:** Rishabh Yadav (13th, 602), Abhishek Verma (29th, 591), Ojas Deotale (34th, 589), Uday Kamboj (35th, 589). **Women:** Madhura Dhamangaonkar (fourth, 600), Chikitha Taniparthi (11th, 592), V. Jyothi Surekha (19th, 585), Aditi Swami (23rd, 582). **Team: Men:** India (sixth, 1782); **Women:** India (third, 1777); **Mixed:** India (fifth, 1202).

Prateek and Ananya shine for U Mumba

Prateek Tulsani and Ananya Muralidharan were in top form as they took U Mumba to a 7-2 victory over Ahmedabad SG Pipers in the league stage of the Dream UTT juniors table tennis in Ahmedabad on Wednesday. It was the third victory in four matches for U Mumba as it leads the eight-team competition with 23 points, along with Dempo Goa Challengers and Jaipur Patriots. Kolkata ThunderBlades has 21.

The results (league): Stanley's Chennai Lions bt Jaipur Patriots 5-4 (Siddharth Dhariwal lost to Trishal Surapuureddy 10-11, 11-10, 9-11; Siddharth & Divyanshi Bhowmik bt Trishal & Shreya Dhar 5-11, 11-10, 11-8; Divyanshi bt Shreya 7-11, 11-6, 11-6).

U Mumba bt Ahmedabad SG Pipers 7-2 (Prateek Tulsani bt Abheek Kashyap 11-10, 10-11, 11-9; Prateek & Ananya Muralidharan bt Abheek & Mouboni Chatterjee 11-10, 11-9, 11-4; Ananya bt Mouboni 11-9 11-8, 8-11).

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